



THE

Fisherman

— THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION —

75¢

January 24th—30th, 1985
Volume 20, Number 3

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THANK YOU PENN REEL CO.

The PENN reel co. was so kind to print a picture of our own Lou Rosado in the 1985 PENN catalog. The picture was taken by Al Ristori (famous sports writer) if you can find Lou in the catalog, this week we will sell you any PENN reel at distributor cost. PENN makes some nice reels & down riggers and we have all at great unbelievable prices.

LONG ISLAND SPORTSMAN'S EXPO SPECIALS

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UNIONDALE - JAN. 23 thru 27

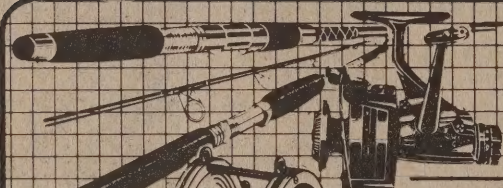
These specials are only because of the Sportsman's Expo. See us there.

We are giving away the store at the show, and at Farmingdale. If you want some real deals and some fun, see us at the Nassau Coliseum.

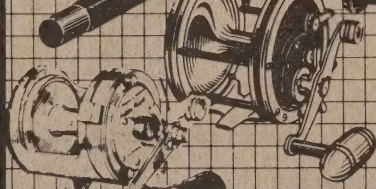
COMPETITION TAKE NOTICE

Look for our special announcement in a few weeks, that will blow your minds.

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Mention the secret word "EXPO" and take an extra discount off our already super low prices.



ALL PENN REELS	10% off
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Take Route 110 two blocks north of Republic Airport
Edelman's is behind Seaman's Furniture on the right
FROM LONG ISLAND EXPRESSWAY, EXIT 49S
Take Route 110 south approximately 3 miles
We're behind Seaman's Furniture on the left side



THE

Fisherman

— THE LONG ISLAND. METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION —

Volume 20, Number 3

January 24th, 1985

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Jim Capossela with a pair of brown trout taken through the ice from Titicus Reservoir. The Croton Watershed offers some fine ice fishing and is within easy reach of Metropolitan area anglers. Turn to page 32 for more on this cold weather fishery. Cover photo by Jim Capossela.

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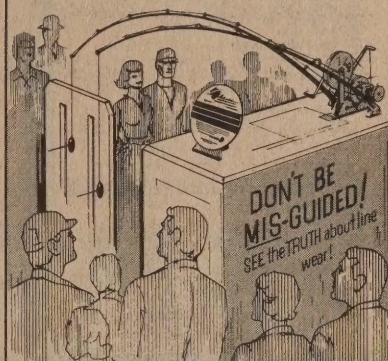
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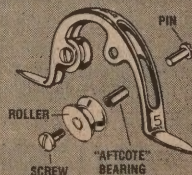
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Your own eyes will show you

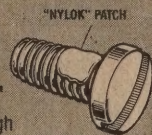
what your line endures as you fight a powerful fish... how dragging it back and forth over the stationary surfaces of ring guides will fray, weaken and steadily destroy it. Watch how Aftco roller guides carry line smoothly in and out on rollers that turn right with the line to avoid this destructive friction and heat. No wonder top rodmakers put Aftco guides on their finest saltwater rods... no wonder more IGFA world record fish are taken from the seas with Aftco than with any other guides.

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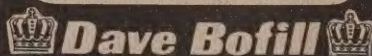
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PASS IT ON

INTRO COURSE ON LORAN C IN BROOKLYN

Because the U.S. Coast Guard agrees that having a Loran C aboard and knowing how to operate it would greatly reduce their "longside time" to a vessel in distress, Flotilla 11-5 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will render an "Introduction to Loran C" Seminar on Sunday, March 10th, at the Diamond Point Yacht Club, 1350 Paerdegat Ave., in the Canarsie section of Brooklyn. The seminar will start at 1000 and conclude at about 1200.

Because of the heavy demand for this seminar seating will be by **reservation only!** All inquiries should be addressed to the Flotilla Commander, Harry Frankel, 2069 85th St., Brooklyn, NY 11214. Sometime later and at the same place, a follow-up seminar will be rendered which will be directed at the use of the micrologic 2000, 3000, 5000 and the 5500. Seminars on the various other brand Loran C sets will follow!

For your convenience a phone call to 718-266-0552 with the code word "Loran C," together with your name and address will dispatch an invitation to you. You must act promptly as there are only 60 seats available and it is on a first come, first seated basis.

SAFE BOAT HANDLING COURSE IN BROOKLYN

The Brooklyn Power Squadron reminds boaters that it will begin a 12-week evening course in safe boat handling in February in downtown Brooklyn and the Sheepshead Bay area. The course is designed for skippers and would-be skippers, and is open to men, women and teenagers.

Classes will be held at St. Francis College, 180 Remsen Street, just a half block from Brooklyn Borough Hall, on Thursdays at 7:30 PM, starting on February 7. Registration for those classes will take place from 7 to 7:30 PM at the school on February 7th. \$

Classes also will be conducted at Sheepshead Bay High School, 3000 Avenue X, near Nostrand Avenue, on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM starting on February 20th. Registration for those classes also will take place from 7 to 7:30 on the first day of the course.

Ownership of a boat is not required to attend the Brooklyn Power Squadron's course. Classes cover the techniques of safe handling inboard and outboard craft, anchoring, tying basic knots, chart reading, plotting courses, use of a mariner's compass and safety afloat. Aids to navigation, such as buoys and radio beacons, also are explained in illustrated lectures. There is a \$25 charge for course

papers, charts and plotting instruments.

The Brooklyn Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons, conducts the classes to teach boaters and those interested in boating the skills they must possess for safety on the water. Additional information can be obtained by calling (718) 338-3083 after 4PM daily.

BERTHING PERMITS AT CAPTREE STATE PARK

Sealed applications will be received by the Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission, Administration Headquarters, Control Unit, Belmont Lake State Park, Babylon, New York, until 2PM, Thursday, February 14, 1985 for berthing in the Captree Boat Basin and permission to operate fishing vessels from Captree State Park, Suffolk County, Long Island, New York. Qualified applicants will be selected at a lottery drawing.

The Invitation to Apply, terms of the four year permit, official Lottery Application and envelope may be obtained at the above address.

BASIC BOATING COURSE IN STATEN ISLAND

The Staten Island Power Squadron will be conducting its Basic Boating Course commencing January 21, 1985 at 8PM at the Richmond County Yacht Club, 142 Mansion Avenue in Great Kills, Staten Island.

The 12-week course, which is free, is designed to introduce the novice to the terms and concepts of boating; the skills of basic chart and compass work; boat handling and regulations governing equipment and operation of boats.

There will be a small charge for course material. For further information contact Tom Pride (718) 351-3969 or Henry Griffin, (718) 981-9919.

MID-ISLAND SURFCASTERS ANNOUNCE NEW OFFICERS FOR 1985

The Mid-Island Surfcasters have elected a new slate of Officers for 1985: President—George Schuchman; Vice Pres—Bob Buss; Secretary—Myron Bender; and Treasurer—Fred Eike. Our thanks go to last year's officers who did a great job and worked very hard to mold M.I.S. into a club.

This is our second year after a very successful 1984 start-up under the leadership of our President and founder Marge Buss, who envisioned the need for a guys and gals surf fishing club and worked very hard at setting it up. We formed this club solely for the purpose of getting together and enjoying our sport of surf fishing. We participate in the

N.Y. Surf Fishing Contest which is our only competition and were quite successful in 1984. We plan on doing even better in 1985 with increased interest and membership.

Any surf fishermen 18 years of age or older is welcome to join. If interested please contact our President, George Schuchman at (516) 872-9809; or our Vice President Bob Buss at (516) 796-5166.

FREE BASIC BOATING COURSE OFFERED IN ISLIP

The Great South Bay Power Squadron, a member unit of the United States Power Squadrons, will conduct a free 10 week basic boating course starting on January 29, 1985. Classes will be held from 8PM to 10PM every Tuesday evening in the Islip Junior High School cafeteria, located on Montauk Highway in Islip.

Registration will take place on January 22 and 24 from 7:30 PM to 9PM at the Islip High School on Montauk Highway in Islip. The classes are free, however, there will be a nominal charge for text book and navigation material.

This basic boating course will include U.S. Coast Guard Safety Regulations, rules of the road, aids to navigation, basic piloting and use of charts among other topics.

Upon passing the final examination, participants will receive safe boating certificates, which many marine insurance carriers honor for a reduction in premiums.

The United States Power Squadrons are dedicated to bringing about safe boating on our waters through education of all boaters in the safe handling and navigation of both sail and power boats.

For further information, please contact Bob Kirshbaum at 587-6739.

WORLD FISHING AND OUTDOOR EXPOSITION AT SUFFERN, NY

The eighth annual World Fishing and Outdoor Exposition opens February 27th at the Rockland Community College Field House in Suffern, New York. Running through March 3rd, this gigantic sportsmen's show has become a "must" event for hunters and anglers in this area.

Aisle after aisle in the huge field house will be filled with fishing tackle displays with all major manufacturers represented, hunting gear, guides, outfitters, lodges and travel exhibits, fishing boats and motors, taxidermists, custom rod makers, sportsmen's organizations and a lot more. More major sporting equipment retailers than ever will be there, many with special show bargain prices.

In addition to the exhibits and included in the price of admission (\$5 for adults and \$2 for children under 12), there will be daily seminars and clinics on hunting and fishing featuring world-famous outdoorsmen and local experts to share their knowledge with you. Parking at the Expo is free.

Doors will be open from 1PM to 10PM Wednesday through Friday;



Albert King of Brixham, S. Devon, England with his record Pollack on 2 lb. class Trilene.

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10 lb. Test Mono	Diameter (in.)	Break Strength (lbs.)	Tensile Strength (PSI)
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Trilene XL®	.0112	12.04	122,208
Sigma	.0116	11.55	109,289
Ande	.0114	10.70	104,830
Stren	.0118	11.28	103,147
Maxima	.0136	14.80	101,881

All lines tested were tested in August 1984 by an independent laboratory to simulate actual fishing conditions. Samples were purchased from retail stores across the U.S.A. Tests proved that Trilene's tensile strength was superior. Tensile strength is based on line diameter and break strength. It is a measurement, in pounds per square inch (PSI), of the force required to break a line. Test results available upon request.



*Fly fishing records excluded, see details in the Trilene box.

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SHIMANO Bantam® Magnumlite™ GT-Plus

The ultimate in casting ease
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- Exclusive Fightin' Drag™
- QuickFire™ Casting System
- Calibrated Magnetic Spool Control
- Super Gears with Extra High Speed Ratios
- Stainless Steel Ball Bearings
- Super Strong, Super Light
- Available in True Right-Hand Retrieve Models



SHIMANO Triton™ Trolling Series

Better reels at better prices!

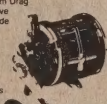
- Strong, Lightweight One-Piece Frame
- Space Age Ball Bearing Titanium Drag
- Up to 83% More Drag Surface Area Than Other Reels
- Water-Shielded Drag with 40% Broader Range of Control
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- Priced Right!



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A high speed reel with a precise stainless steel levelwind system and exclusive ball bearing titanium drag!

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- Super Strong Shimano Gears
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Tough, dependable saltwater reels.

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- Adjustable Cast Control



SHIMANO Magnumlite™ GTX-Plus

Tomorrow's spinning reel — today!

- Fightin' Drag™ with Incredible Precision
- Exclusive QuickFire™ Casting System
- Scientifically Calibrated Rear Drag Programmer
- Push-Button Pop-Off Spool
- Tough Shimano Gears with Extra High Speed Ratios
- Graphite/Titanium Construction
- FREE Extra Graphite Spool in Every Box



SHIMANO MAKES A SIZE REEL TO MATCH ANY SIZE ROD

SHIMANO Magnumlite™ GT Fightin' Rods™

The most powerful
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- Amazingly Strong and Sensitive
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- First True Innovation in Modern Rod Design. Puts the blank in your hand.



Custom X-GT

The best one-handed rear drag
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- Exclusive QuickFire™ Casting System
- Scientifically Calibrated Rear Drag Programmer
- Dependable Shimano Gears with Extra High Speed Ratio
- Graphite/Titanium Construction
- Self-Centering Ball
- Stainless Steel Ball Bearings
- Free Spare Spool with Every Reel



SHIMANO Custom GT-Plus

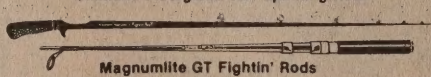
Gives you the right drag
... at the right moment!

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- Push-Button Graphite Spool
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"38 Yrs. is a long time! That's how long
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from 9:30 AM to 8PM Saturday; and from 10AM to 7PM on Sunday.

The World Fishing and Outdoor Exposition is easy to get to: just take Exit 14B (Airmont Road) off the NY Thruway (I-87). It's the first exit west of the Garden State Parkway and is about ten minute's drive from the Tappan Zee Bridge.

FLOTILLA 11-02 ANNOUNCES SAILING & SEAMANSHIP COURSE

Beginning on February 13th, at their facility, Flotilla 11-02 will offer a 10 week comprehensive course including boat handling, safety, legal requirements, rules of the road and a three seminar course in Navigation.

The course is offered free of charge, the only cost will be for books and materials.

All seminars will be held at the Flotilla Headquarters located at Floyd Bennett Field.

For information and registration contact Mitchell Pitkoff, Monday through Friday 4:30 to 8PM at (718) 968-1751.

ROWLAND BOATS AND MOTORS LARGEST TIARA DEALER

In our January 10, 1985 issue, the author of the article, "What's New in Fishing Boats for 1985," in listing local dealers, inadvertently omitted the oldest and biggest Tiara Dealer. That is, of course, Rowland Boats and Motors, 1598 North Hwy., Southampton, NY 11968. Their telephone is (516) 283-3444.

PUBLIC EDUCATION COURSE OFFERED IN MANHATTAN

Once again, Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 5-7 is proud to offer another boating course, which is open to the general public. The course being given this spring is called "Sailing and Seamanship." These lessons are presented as lectures and discussions which are supplemented with movies, slides, models and demonstrations which are supplemented with movies, slides, models and demonstrations with actual equipment. Students will have direct "hands-on" instruction and practice in the areas of marlin-spike seamanship (nautical knots) and basic coastal piloting (navigation).

These courses, which are taught by highly experienced instructors are given on Thursday evenings from 7PM until 9PM, beginning January 24th. The entire course will consist of 12 lessons. Registration begins on January 24th at 6:30 PM.

There is FREE locked parking on the premises, if you are travelling by car. Public transportation is also very convenient. By subway, take #1 IRT to South Ferry Station, or RR train to White hall Street Station. The #4 and #5 IRT also go to Bowling Green Station.

There is a nominal fee for the course which includes a textbook, workbook, navigation training chart and marlin-spike practice line. All instruction is taught free of charge.

For more information, please con-

tact Steve Ober, Director of Public Education and Training at (212) 689-0292.

SHINNECOCK MARLIN & TUNA CLUB SET TOURNAMENT DATES

The Shinnecock Marlin and Tuna Club is pleased to announce the dates of their 24th Annual Billfish/Tuna Invitational. The tournament will be held on July 26-28, 1985 and will be headquartered at Jackson's Marina, Shinnecock Canal, Hampton Bays, NY. Trophies, door prizes, raffles, and a gourmet dinner are on tap.

Slip space is limited and will be on a first come, first served basis. For further information and application, contact: Bob Hubler, P.O. Box 764, Valley Stream, NY 11582, (516) 599-4325.

BOATING SKILLS COURSE IN BABYLON

Flotilla 1-1 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has announced that once again they will offer their public education class Boating Skills and Seamanship course. This is the longest and most practical of the Auxiliary programs. This 13 week course takes the student from the language of boating, marine engines, rules of the road, piloting/charting, to a practical discussion of weather. Each lesson is 2 hours in duration. The BS&S course will commence on Tuesday, January 29, 1985 and will be held at the Babylon High School, which is located on Carll Ave. A nominal fee of \$25 will be charged for the material which will be supplied to each student. At the conclusion of this course, all graduates will be given a beautiful certificate, which is supplied by the U.S. Coast Guard.

For more information, call Betty McEachen after 6PM at 669-2842 or write to Box 92, Babylon, NY 11702.

BOATING SKILL & SEAMANSHIP COURSE IN BROOKLYN AND QUEENS

A 16 week lesson course in Boating Skills and Seamanship will be given by Flotilla 11-4 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Classes and Registration, 8-10PM, Tuesday Evening, February 5, 1985, in Sheepshead Bay, at the Kingsborough Community College, Science Bldg., Rm. S163, in Manhattan Beach, Bklyn, NY, located at the end of Oriental Blvd.

The course will be presented by experienced U.S.C.G. Auxiliary instructors, using the Auxiliary's highly acclaimed text book and related instructional materials. A wide area of subjects will be covered, including: boating language, boat handling, rules of the road, legal requirements, use of charts, piloting, marine engines, weather, safety, aids to navigation, marlinspike, sailing, radiotelephone, and more. The classes provide an excellent forum for in-depth questions and answers.

The lessons are designed for beginning and intermediate levels

Hurricane® takes the story-telling out of fishing...

For 32 years, Florida fishermen have looked to Hurricane for reliability and durability because we built rods to be tough in all fishing situations. Whether spinning, trolling, surfcasting, or boating, Hurricane has a rod for you to choose, from over 100 models. Most important, Hurricane won't damage your pocket. All our rods are value packed and now backed by our exclusive 10 year tough warranty. So next time you get ready to buy a rod, look to the rod the pros preferred in over 40 tournaments. We want to take the story telling out of your fishing.

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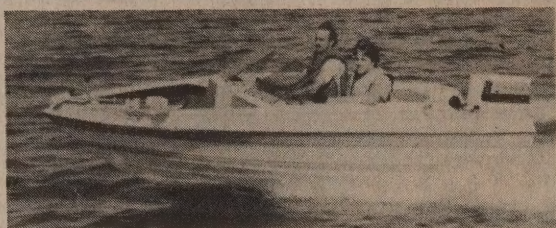
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- Standard fishing features include electric trolling motor, forward and aft fishing seats rotate 360°, large baitwell.
- Pedestal seat, poly carpeting deck.



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- Completely integrated package with 85 hp Force outboard custom Escort trailer, electric trolling motor, CB radio with antenna, and depth sounder with alarm.
- Metal flake gelcoat and poly carpet interior.



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1910 CENTER CONSOLE

Boat, Motor & Trailer Package

- Designed as a complete, integrated package with 125 hp Force outboard and custom galvanized Escort trailer.
- Factory equipped with CB radio with antenna, depth sounder with alarm, compass, ice chest, 40 gallon keel tank, and stainless steel bow rail.
- Serious fishing features include self-bailing cockpit, raised casting platform, live baitwell, deck mount pole holders, and transom gate.



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2110 TROPHY CUDDY

- Standard fishing features include depth sounder with alarm, adjustable rotating helm and companion seats, 3-drawer tackle storage trays, horizontal rod storage racks, deck mount pole holders, insulated fishwell, and baitwell.
- Factory equipped with trim tabs, CB radio with antenna, portable toilet, convertible top, starboard electric wiper, compass, sleeping for three adults and long-range keel fuel tank.
- Engineered compatibility between and standard 125 hp Force outboard with power trim and custom galvanized Escort trailer.



\$13,995.

and family participation is encouraged. The course is offered free, with a nominal fee for the text and materials. Upon successful completion of the course, registrants will receive a handsome certificate from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

For further information, call Dr. Zimmerman, of Flotilla 11-4 at (718) 332-5447.

FLOTILLA 3-2 BOATING SAFETY COURSE

Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 3-2 will host a Boating Safety Course at their Auxiliary Barge, Meadowlands Pkwy., Secaucus, New Jersey (next to the Aratusa Restaurant) beginning February 25, 1985 at 7:30 PM and continuing twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays for six weeks. Pre-registration is required.

The course will include instruction on boat handling, legal requirements, rules of the road, piloting, marlinspike and radio telephone. There will be a \$20 charge for cost of materials and testing.

For more information, call: 864-4073, Emile De Cosmo, Public Education Officer, Fl. 3-2. Upon completion of the course, students will be awarded a certificate from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

MOON CLOCK AVAILABLE

The newly redesigned Hannon's Moon Clock is now available and covers the period from January 1, 1985 through June 30, 1986. (There will be no mid-year issue this year.)

Daylight Savings Time and Standard Time have been combined on one time scale with large and easy-to-read numbers. Its dial design permits a sportsman to align the "day" with the "month" and the calculator indicates the AM and PM (two daily) periods of excellent (major) and good (minor) fishing and game activity. As Hannon reported: "The greatest fishing and hunting success takes place when the dark or full moon falls within the three-day brackets in the moon phase window" of the Moon Clock calculator. Field studies have shown five times greater success during the excellent periods than in other times of the day. In addition, Hannon's Moon Clock works in all time zones.

Doug Hannon, No. 1 authority on big bass fishing and dedicated conservationist, created his original pocket-sized calculator nine years ago; it was readily accepted by sportsmen everywhere. Concurring with nature, he and other experts agree that lunar phases exert strong influence not only on tides, but especially the living and feeding habits of all animals including man. Hannon's Moon Clock now puts this nature's clock at the fingertips of all sportsmen. The waterproof, pocket-sized Moon Clock is available at \$4.95 each (plus 75 cents postage and handling) by writing to: Tern Corporation, Dept. 23, P.O. Box 3123, Seminole, FL 33542.



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NEW PRODUCTS

NEW COMPACT TACKLE BOX

A fisherman has invented a compact, cylinderized, floatable, unbreakable pocket tackle box designed for maximum convenience.

Called the "Toob," the 3-7/8" x 1-4/8" x 2" tackle box consists of eight separate cylinders, made of see-through polypropylene, each with its own cover.

The dula advantage of the separate cylinders is: 1) it keeps your gear separate and avoids tangles; and 2) if you drop it, only the open cylinder's contents fall out. The lids, incidentally, are hinged to each cylinder so they can't be dropped or lost and open from the inside of the two rows of cylinders to prevent being accidentally opened by rubbing against your shirt or trouser.

Made of tough polypropylene, the "Toob" is virtually unbreakable and buoyant, so dropping is never a problem. The eight compartments carry just about everything a fisherman needs: spinners, spoons, flies, sinkers, hooks, swivels, cheese,

worms, salmon eggs, bugs, bubbles and lures up to No. 2 size.

The "Toob" was developed by Janko, a corporation consisting of two fisheren, Don Janson and George Koons, and is located in Phoenix, Arizona. It is anticipated that three more sizes of the "Toob" will soon be developed: one for flies; one for lures up to No. 6 size; and a four-compartment single row "Toob" for tight pockets.

UNCLE JOSH'S NEW PRESERVED BAIT LINE

Using the expertise and techniques developed in processing and preserving pork rind and salmon eggs for over 60 years, Uncle Josh has introduced a new line of high quality Preserved Baits.

Genuine Minnows, Crawfish and Crickets authentically preserved to maintain all the realism, detail and fish catching power of actual living creatures.

Uncle Josh Minnows are preserved naturally to maintain the flexibility of

live minnows. Shiners and Minnows are available, both in two sizes.

Whole natural crawfish, 1 1/2" to 2" long, are preserved to maintain their real color and "live" movement patterns.

Full bodied, live crickets are carefully preserved for total realism. Each pack contains assorted sizes to suit a variety of species and fishing conditions.

For complete details, contact the Uncle Josh Bait Company, P.O. Box 130, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538.

NEW FREEZE-DRIED ALEWIFE FROM OJIBWAY BAIT CO.

Now available from Ojibway Bait Company is the new freeze-dried bait, Alewife. When reconstituted in water, the Alewife looks, tastes, feels and smells alive.

Available in packages of six, the natural freeze-dried Alewife is 3 1/2" to 4 1/2" in length. They store easily and indefinitely in a tackle box and are much easier to use and more durable than either frozen or live Alewife.

The new Alewife is part of the Jib-Way (TM) Bait line, authentic natural baits with only the water removed. No artificial preservatives or additives are used. This lightweight bait with its original scent and taste is ideal whether trolling, jigging, casting or bottom fishing. It has proven effective

Go pick on a fish your own size.

Most big water spinning reels are just slower, heavier, clumsier versions of their freshwater cousins.

Which is why you need a Shimano Custom GT-Plus series reel.

Their Graphite/Titanium construction makes them a lot lighter than other reels their size. It also makes them virtually

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It operates on the same principle as the lever drag system on big game ocean reels.

So instead of fumbling around for a front or rear drag control knob, you can use the incredible fish-sensing "feel" of the Fightin' Drag

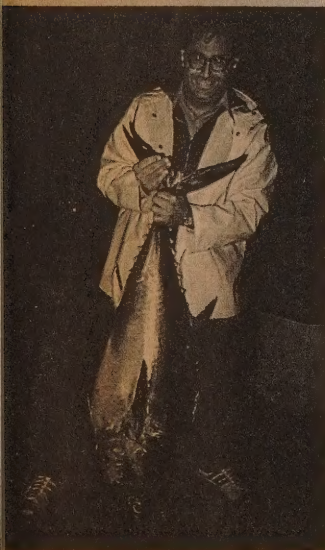
lever to quickly, surely, *confidently* play that monster right up to the boat.

The Shimano Custom GT-Plus series. If you're

going to pick on a fish your own size, remember: the bigger they come, the harder they *fight*.

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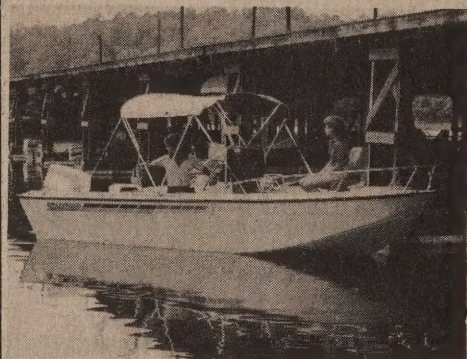
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14' FISHERMAN	\$799.
16' FISHERMAN	\$999.
SKIDDADLE (16'4")	\$3,450.
5.0 CENTER CONSOLE	\$4,495.
OUTLAW 17' BASS BOAT	\$2,850.

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*12 V. Charging System Standard

*All prices include tank, prop,
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for catching brown trout, lake trout, coho and king salmon.

For immediate use, simply inject the bait with water using a syringe or worm blower; or soak in water until soft for about 25 minutes.

For further information, contact: Wayne Ekelund, Ojibway Bait Co. White Earth Indian Reservation, Box 418 White Earth, MN 56591.

NON-PETROLEUM F.D.A. APPROVED FISH ATTRACTOR

Bass Pro Shops' new Hawg Scent (TM) fish attractor uses a non-petroleum, FDA-approved ingredient base. One hundred percent non-toxic, Hawg Scent is biodegradable, harmless to released fish and had been extensively tested. Specially formulated for bass, crappie, bream, and walleye, it also works well on all game fish. Hawg Scent is super-concentrated, and comes packaged in a handy, pocket flask-style pump spray container. Price per 8 oz. container is under \$6.

For more information, write: Hawg Scent, Bass Pro Shops, Box 4046, Springfield, MO 65808.

DART GAFF NEW FROM SO-LO MARINE

So-Lo's Dart Gaff was developed as the result of requests by many off-shore fishermen who wanted a "quicker means" of landing their fish. Offshore captains tell of how some large fish were lost at the boat because the fish was too deep to get a flying gaff under it. The fish then got under the boat and broke off. The Dart Gaff was designed to be a very efficient piece of landing tackle for cockpit use.

The Dart Gaff gives the fisherman up to a 2-foot advantage in reach over a flying gaff and allows him to "strike home" earlier in the battle. Because you can plant the Dart Gaff easily in the head or shoulder of your fish, you save valuable meat; i.e., "giant" tuna. The Dart Gaff allows the dart to be planted faster than with conventional type flying gaffs. It makes it possible to gaff a fish while it is still "green." A "green fish" on a harness is one of the most unpredictable bundles of energy known to man! An improperly handled fish can cause serious damage to boat, equipment and most importantly, to you. Fish should be darted with a hard downward motion and a quick snappy withdrawal. This will clear the dart shaft in the event the darted fish rolls.

The Dart Gaff is easy to stow and requires very little maintenance and can be instantly re-rigged for that "double-header." Dart Gaff's 300 Series stainless steel blades will penetrate even the toughest shark skin. The stainless steel dart is attached to PVC-coated stainless steel cable. This T-316 series cable is 7x7 strand construction, and is extremely strong and flexible. The vinyl coating makes this shark resistant cable soft to the touch and protects your boat. The anodized aluminum handles are

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equipped with non-slip PVC hand grips for sure, easy operation.

For further information, contact So-Lo Marine Products, P.O. Box 877, Bridgeport, CT 06601; (203) 336-2700.

NEW 1000 YARD SPOOL FROM BERKLEY

If you fish in saltwater or are an avid freshwater angler—there's good news. Trilene is now offering a new economy size 1000 yard spool designed to meet the needs of serious fisherman. It's intermediate in size between their bulk spool (3000 yards) and their filler spool (275 yards).

It's priced to save you big bucks; and is 30 percent less costly per yard than filler size spools. If you fish with several rod combos, or if you need to fill a big saltwater reel, it's just the right size.

MANN'S INTRODUCES NEW HARDWORM MODEL AND NEW COLORS FOR 1985

For 1985, Mann's Bait Company has added a new model and two new colors to its line of Hardworm lures. The Hardworm is the only alternative to ordinary crankbaits. It looks like a worm, it fishes like a hardbait and it even comes in Mann's patented fruit flavors. It's an all-purpose, all-year, anywhere kind of lure. Tom Mann calls it his *ultimate* lure.

Joining the Hardworm Top-Water, Shallow Diver, and Medium Diver models for 1985 will be a new Hardworm Deep Diver. This lure is capable of going down to 12 feet and it's excellent for use around piers, standing timber and boat docks.

The two new colors for '85 are Clear Foil Flake and Coachdog. All models will be available in these new colors, as well as Natural, Electric Grape, Chartreuse, Blackberry Firetail, Chrome, and Bone/Orange.

Mann's Hardworms are 5 inches long and come in a 1/4 oz. size.

MITCHELL'S NEW CASTING REEL PREVENTS BACKLASH WITH AIR TURBINE

Browning Mitchell's new "Turbo Mag" casting reel gives you magnetic braking without sacrificing casting distance. The reel features a small air turbine with multi blades. During your cast, the fast spinning spool and turbine pulls a circular rotor disc away from the braking magnets, allowing the spool to spin freely. But as the spool slows down, the small blades shift the circular disc sideways, closer to the magnets, braking the spool at the end of a cast, where backlash is most likely to occur.

Additional features of the low profile Turbo Mag are solid brass drive and pinion gears, ball bearings supporting the spool, and a frame made from a single piece of aluminum alloy.

The Mitchell Turbo Mag had to be better than the competition. The turbine makes the difference in giving you backlash free fishing, in a reel with a name that's been catching 'em for over 30 years.

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With Cortland Braided Line, the line works with you, to cast easier, lay out smoother and react quicker. Cortland gives you a choice. Here are a few:

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- **Cam-O-Flage Nylon**, alternating color patterns let you match line to water color.
- **Kerplunk Lead-Core Trolling Line**, color-coded, deep sinking line.
- **Micron Casting Line**, designed for maximum performance on revolving spool reels.

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For additional product information, write Cortland Line Co., P.O. Box 5588, Cortland, New York 13045, Dept. FGP-1

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NEW YORK STATE SALT WATER RECORD PROGRAM

Anglers landing a fish of record proportions may submit their entry on an official Fisherman Contest weigh slip, available at any Official Fisherman Weigh Station. Simply check the box designating state record consideration, fill in all of the requested information and send the slip, along with a photo of yourself and the fish to: The Fisherman, Post Office Box 1994, Bridge Street, Sag Harbor, New York 11963. If a Fisherman Contest Slip is not available, then a club, marina or tackle shop weigh slip will suffice. In either case, the slip must be witnessed and signed by an official weighmaster. Those qualifying as state record holders will receive a handsome certificate in recognition of their accomplishment. State record information is available from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation office in Stony Brook (516-751-7900) or from The Fisherman (516-725-4200).

Species:	Weight:	Angler:	Date Caught:	Location:
Albacore (Longfin)	59 lbs. 8 oz.	Eileen Merten	Aug. 14, 1971	Shinnecock
Black Sea Bass	9 lbs. 0 oz.	Sal Vicari	Oct. 10, 1983	Montauk
Blackfish	16 lbs. 3 oz.	Ian Lindsay	Oct. 31, 1984	L.I. Sound
Bluefish	24 lbs. 8 oz.	Erin McDonnell Brown	Sept. 29, 1979	L.I. Sound
Cod	85 lbs. 0 oz.	Fred Shay, Jr.	Feb. 25, 1984	Montauk
Flounder (Winter)	5 lbs. 2 oz.	Thomas McCabe	June 27, 1983	Montauk
Fluke	22 lbs. 7 oz.	Charles Nappi	Sept. 15, 1975	Montauk
Marlin (Blue)	940 lbs. 0 oz.	Skip Lowell Mickey Kreitovich	Aug. 4, 1981 July 26, 1984	Montauk Montauk
Marlin (White)	130 lbs. 0 oz.	Mrs. P. Dater	Aug. 13, 1951	Montauk
Pollock	40 lbs. 0 oz.	Jay York	July 15, 1984	Jones Inlet
Porgy (Scup)	6 lbs. 4 oz.	Samuel Warren	1978	Montauk
Shark (Blue)	393 lbs. 0 oz.	Roy Carpenter	Sept. 8, 1979	Montauk
Shark (Mako)	1080 lbs. 0 oz.	James Melanson	Aug. 26, 1979	Montauk
Shark (Tiger)	1047 lbs. 0 oz.	Bob Jessen	July 16, 1983	Fire Island
Shark (White)	1450 lbs. 0 oz.	Richard Pastorelli	July 24, 1965	Montauk
Striped Bass	76 lbs. 0 oz.	Bob Rocchetta	July 17, 1981	Montauk
Swordfish	492 lbs. 4 oz.	Dorothea Cassullo	July 4, 1959	Montauk
Tuna (Bigeye)	335 lbs. 0 oz.	Richard Buechmann	Sept. 27, 1981	Fire Island
Tuna (Bluefin)	1071 lbs. 0 oz.	Larry Thompson	Aug. 21, 1977	Montauk
Tuna (Yellowfin)	239 lbs. 0 oz.	Bob Clancy	Aug. 14, 1978	Fire Island
Weakfish	19 lbs. 2 oz.	Dennis Rooney	Oct. 11, 1984	Jones Inlet

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Ken Moran, POST

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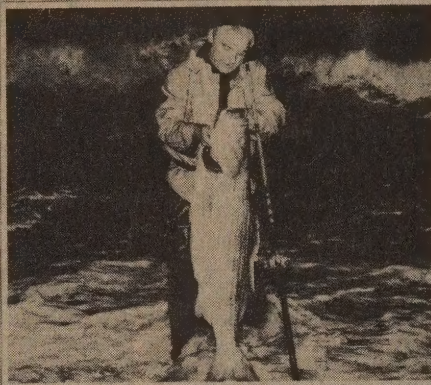
"(surf fishing)...it's a lot more exciting when you're catching fish. **Surf Fishing with the Experts** will help you."

Jerry Kenney, DAILY NEWS

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BOATS FOR ANGLERS:

STARCRAFT FM 160 & PM 160

by Pete Barrett

The "tin boats" of yesteryear are nearly a thing of the past. While every aluminum boat manufacturer still retains basic utility boats in their line, the trend is now towards more sophisticated models like Starcraft's Fishmaster and Pike-master 160s.

Both hulls are 16½ feet in length and they take long shaft engines which means the transoms are high enough to provide safety in a big sea like you might find on a bay if it blows up suddenly or at any of the coastal inlets. The splash wells at the transom keep water out in a following sea and keep gas tanks dry underneath and out of the way while fishing.

The Fishmaster has a built-up gun'l and a beefier construction capable of handling a 90 hp outboard. The Pike-master with its simpler design can take up to a 40 with tiller steering or 60 hp with console added. I've run several aluminum skiffs over the last 20 years and can vouch for the speed that can be attained with even a 35 hp motor on skiffs of this size.

Tiller steering with an extension handle is a nice option if you intend to make offshore runs. The standing position offers better visibility, safety, and comfort. Inshore anglers will probably prefer the side consoles.

The flat deck surfaces give plenty of storage and you can fish in relative comfort standing while casting, drifting, trolling or moving about the boat. Coolers can be strapped into place so they don't slide and can be used for

extra seating.

The decks are covered with a poly carpet that cleans easily and is impressively non-skid. The carpets also partially sound proof the hull in case you do any silent nighttime fishing where a dropped rod or lure may spook fish.

A live well is built into each model and they are large enough to hold a day's supply of killies, shiners or herring.

Aluminum skiffs of this type cannot be self-bailing, but the built-in bilge pump will keep the boat high and dry even in rain or a wet cross-wind spray.

Freshwater fishermen will like the foredecks that are large enough to mount flashers and electric motors, which are now becoming more popular with saltwater anglers too.

Whether you fish for flounder, fluke and weaks or keep to the sweet water for bass, trout and pike, these two boats offer generous storage, light weight for easy handling, economical operation and lots of fishing versatility.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length.....	16'6"
Beam FM	76"
PM	74"
Maximum Horsepower FM	90
PM	60
Dry Weight FM	640 pounds
PM	565 pounds
Fuel Capacity	carry on tanks 6 to 12 gallon



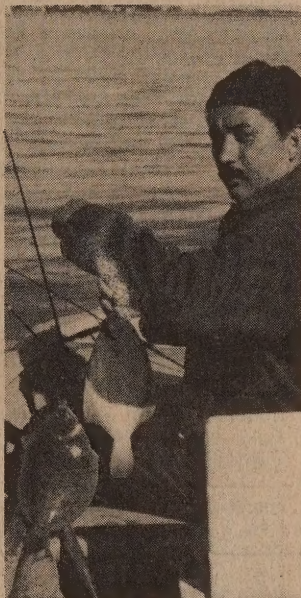
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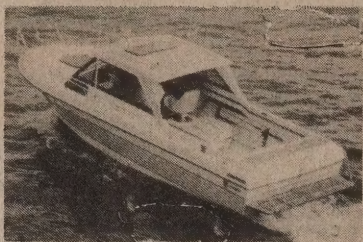
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THE TACKLE DOCTOR

by Russ Wilson

Editor:

What's the advantage of using stiff monofilament for leader material? I've been using a limp mono for all of the fluke and winter flounder rigs I hand tie and have not found it to be inferior to the stiff mono leaders sold at many tackle shops. Why do your writers keep preaching the benefits of stiff leaders when the thinner diameter mono works equally well?

Dave Johnson

We, too, feel the limp mono leader will work for many situations. But, when using double or triple hook rigs, bucktails, metals or swimming plugs which require a lot of muscle to bring out the best action, we prefer the stiff material for our leaders.

Limp monofilament can, and does, make excellent leaders for some species of fish. As you mention, the fluke or flounder are two that come immediately to mind.

The basic reason for using stiff leaders is to keep rigs from tangling, and in some cases, to allow a more natural presentation of the bait or lure. Quite often, the stiffer leaders will cause lures or baits to work better than will a soft leader even though it is of a finer diameter and offers less visibility to the fish.

Winter flounder are certainly not hook or leader shy and do not have teeth to bite through a fine leader. I like to rig my flounder hooks on the lightest leader I can obtain, and have

on occasion gone to 6 pound test to present a small offering more naturally. But this is the extreme. Generally, you will catch just as many flounder with 10 or 12 pound test leader.

* * *

Doctor:

I am completely new to saltwater fishing and would like some help selecting the right equipment for fishing off the surf and from jetties. I realize this is a big order, but any help you can offer is greatly appreciated.

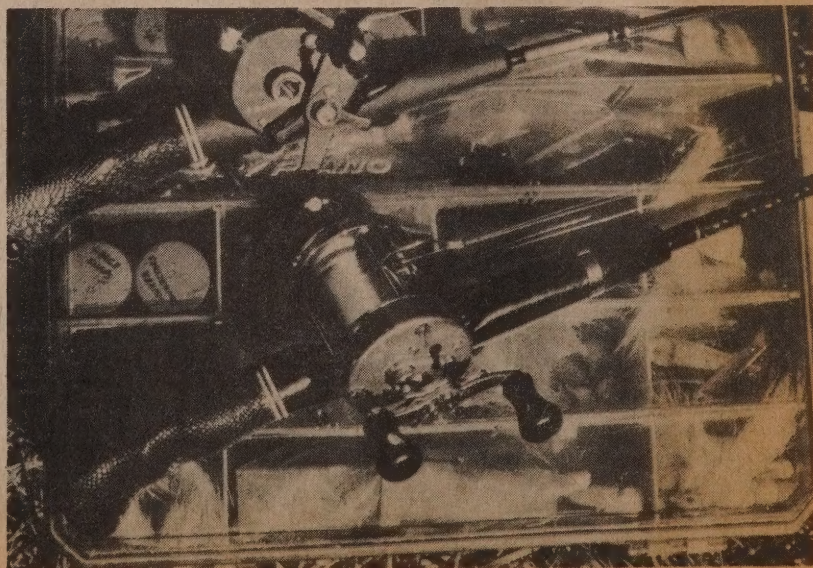
William Mauer.

Bill,

You are asking a lot. Each method of fishing (surf or jetty) requires a completely different approach in the basic tackle and also in the use and selection of rods, reels and terminal rigging.

Surf fishing is a very specialized game. You'll need a rod of at least 9 to 10 feet, a reel capable of holding a couple hundred yards of 17 to 20 pound test line, and an assortment of plugs, metals, bucktails and terminal rigs. Those plugs, metals and bucktails can be used for surf fishing also, but the rod—if it measures more than 9 feet overall—may be too long for most jetty work.

I'd suggest a visit to a reputable tackle shop. Most shop owners of our acquaintance are basically fishermen first and businessmen second. They



generally know what type of equipment is best suited to a specific purpose and since they carry a variety of equipment in stock, you can "hands on" test it prior to purchase.

Reels are another story. There are just so many styles and models from which you can pick and choose. As stated, you'll need a model that will hold at least 200 yards of 15 to 20 pound test mono and the larger models which hold much more line than that are usually preferred since they allow more line pick up per turn of the reel handle. This allows you to retrieve plugs or metals at a fast, moderate or slow speed depending on what the fish prefer at that particular time.

Premium lines cost a little more than the regular grades and I feel the extra expenditure is money well spent. You'll get exactly what you pay for, and when it comes to lines you should go for the best since it's your only connection between you and the fish.

If you plan to fish for striped bass, blues and weakfish you will need some plugs and metals. In the plug department you should have some subsurface swimmers, a couple of top water swimmers, a straight swimmer such as the Needlefish and some poppers. I like big plugs and usually have a couple of 2 to 4 ounce models in my plug bag in addition to the usual 5/8 ounce and 1 to 2 ounce models.

Metals such as the Hopkins, Ultimeus and Kastmaster are a virtual must. Pick a variety of weights including those of only one ounce and others weighing upwards of three ounces and stick to the models which have single hooks rather than the trebles. You can buy metals with or without hair or feather dressing on the tail hook and both will catch fish under different circumstances, so it does pay to have both with you whenever you venture onto the rocks or plan a surf fishing trip.

Terminal rigs come in all styles and each has a purpose. You'll need rigs for fishing worms, another type rig for use with finger mullet and still another if you plan to bottom fish with crabs or clam. Remember, every species of fish has a different mouth structure and a hook that works for one may not be suitable for another fish of similar size even though both feed on basically the same foods.

Your best bet is to ask the tackle shop owner what he recommends for each situation. You may find yourself buying a dozen different style rigs but as you learn more about surf and jetty fishing you will find that each has a specific use and is needed.

* * *

Dear Russ,

I wonder if you can help me out with a little problem. I recently purchased a pair of downriggers for my boat. Actually, I've been using them for a year, but I don't know if I'm using them right or not.

I would like to know if there is a for-

mula to use when trolling. I do know the faster the boat moves, the downrigger weight will rise. I usually troll at 800 to 1000 RPMs and will "read" fish on the chart recorder at, let's say 20 feet, but when I drop the downrigger weight to that depth I have trouble catching fish.

How much deeper do I have to drop the weight in order to put the lures at fish eye level? If there is any information you can give me on this, it will certainly be appreciated. I am using a downrigger which has a 48 inch arm and with it I have a 10 pound weight. Thanks for your help.

Bill Gallo.

Dear Bill,

Sorry to say it, but there is no set formula you can use when figuring the depth your downrigger weights will lift under a certain speed. There are too many variables to consider. For openers, you have currents, hull design (some boats run slow at 800 RPMs and others may be almost on a plane) and then you must count on the help you receive from wind or tide.

But, to clear up one point, I suggest you first measure just how much distance you have from the tip of your downrigger arm to the surface of the water. If it is three or four feet you must allow for that extra distance when setting your downrigger lines.

Also worth noting is the fact that some lures dive and others have a tendency to lift as they are slowly trolled. Deep diving plugs, for instance, will add additional depth to the downriggers and may even be much too deep to be effective on fish that are only down 20 feet. By the same token, a flat-faced plug is going to climb as it is pulled along by the boat. You may have the downriggers set correctly for 20 feet but the lift of the lure may bring it up above the fish's cone of vision and it then becomes totally ineffective.

Downrigger weight design also adds an entirely new dimension to the problem. The weights which are shaped like a torpedo or are designed to imitate the shape of a fish will run straighter and are less apt to "kick out" when trolled at moderate speeds. A round type "ball" is going to pick up more pressure and will more than likely lay back as it is pulled along by the moving boat.

You might try placing the downrigger arms at a 90 degree angle so the depth recorder can "read" the position of your downrigger weights. It is a method used extensively on the Great Lakes where downriggers first came into play amongst sport fishermen.

The downriggers I have were built with a depth readout that gives the amount of line I have out. This is measured from the downrigger spool, not from the water. With the four foot arm, I have to allow four feet plus the distance between the end of the arm and the surface of the water. On my Mako this works out to seven feet. So, when I read fish at 20 feet, I allow 27 feet of wire line from the downrigger spool to the weight.

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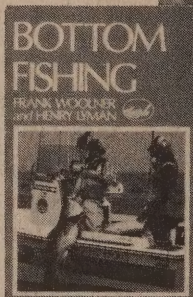
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— 1984 IN REVIEW —

LONG ISLAND SOUND INCLUDING THE NORTH FORK

by Marty Garrell

There was enough good fishing along the North Shore and the Peconics in 1984 to keep just about everyone happy, as long as they were willing to adapt to species that were abundant. Although flounder fishing was disappointing due to increased dragging by commercials, the tautog run, especially in the fall, was spectacular. Fluke were small but incredibly abundant, and bluefish again dominated the summer scene. Porgy fishing never really showed a late season peak, but there were enough mediums and "breakfast-sized" scup to keep numbers up for much of the summer. Except for a very few sharpies with a very few hot innings, weakfish and striped bass were few

and far between.

Although March brings the first flounder addicts out east and provides grist for the mill, the 1984 reports do not reflect any good fishing until the end of the month. Good numbers were reported by Dom Cerbone's Apache working behind the dredges in Oyster Bay by March 29 and Dave Watt at Glen Cove Sports Shop was touting the Pryble Pier/Dosoris Pond zone around the same time. Late dragging in the Peconics seemed to put a damper on the flatfish run that usually begins in the last week of the month around Robins Island.

Small flatfish were abundant in in-shore waters around Huntington by April 12, according to both George

Valentine at Four Winds and the Cedars at Huntington Prop, while there was good local flatfishing for small boats out of the Carafis Station in Port Jeff. Setauket Channel, Conscience Bay Channel and MacAllis' Cove had a few fish to 1½ pounds. At the same time, Joe Ferrara of the Sea King had some very good "one-drop" fishing in Oyster Bay. With draggers gone from the Peconics, some of the Robins Island fishing improved in April and catches of 30 or more big flounder to 3 pounds were noted at Captain Marty's in New Suffolk. Cold water kept fishing further east on the slow side until the end of the month. The Sound near Rocky Point was only 42 degrees and



Jigging for blues was excellent throughout most of the summer on the Sound.

Gardiner's Bay was steady at 43 as late as April 19. However, Richie Jensen of the Nancy Ann and Dave Brennan of the Peconic Star broke into the mother lode of larger 1½ to 2 pound flatties east of Greenport in time to make news in Issue #16.

Ralph Davenport at Ralph's in Mount Sinai looked at a number of outstanding catches from Shoreham about April 26 with a few 3 pounders in the group. Sound flounder fishing around Mattituck Inlet picked up about the same time.

A few City Island boats were telling stories of blackfish as early as May 3 and mackerel were showing off Buoy 11, Port Jefferson. Spotty blackfish activity was also reported by the Mattituck Fishing Station, but flounder to 3½ pounds outside the Inlet stole the show. George Porter's Brand X had tremendous flatfishing along the Sound shores from Petty's Bight all the way back to Horton's in early May as well, and Gardiner's began to break loose by May 10. Although catches for the Prime Time II from Orient as well as the Greenport fleet held up for several weeks, heavy dragging off Bostick finally cared out much of the run by the end of May, and the Sound was dead long before that.

Mackerel fishing on the Sound in the mid-Island area was decent for the Klondike VIII out of New Rochelle by May 17, but most open boats were sticking with a mix of flounder and blackfish. The Glen Cove Sport Shop weighed a 14 pound tautog and Jack's Bait on City Island bragged about a 10 pounder on the scales.

A handful of weakfish was reported each day for a couple of weeks in the Peconics, the ghost of the once enormous spring run of the 1970s. Captain Marty's weighed a 13.4 giant for Joe Privatell, and Ace Cottral at the Port of Egypt weighed an 11.4 around May 17. It was a sign of the times that flounder continued to dominate East End reports through the entire month. Probably the biggest flattie of the Sound season was a 4¼ pound snowshoe taken off Reeves Beach by Steve Kellner and weighed at Warren's in Aquabogue.

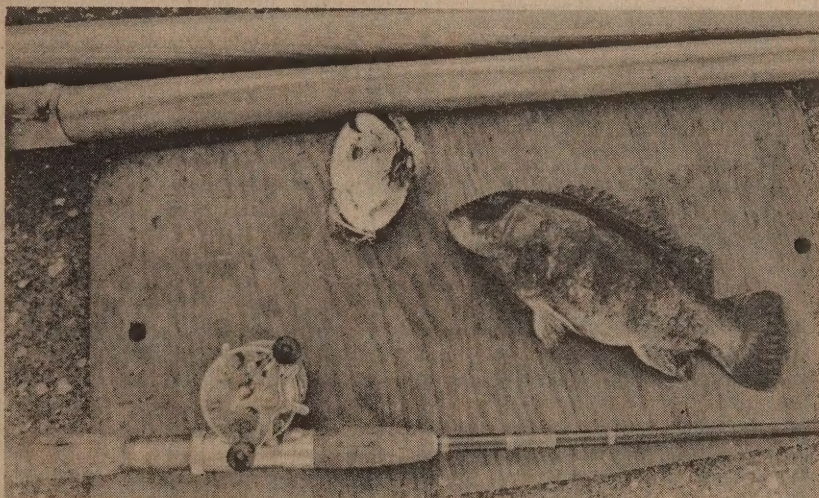
The most successful weakfish action of the spring run was, of course, the nighttime game. Proof came in the Riverhead Sportsmen's Peconic Weakfish Tourney in which 172 contestants registered only 60 weigh-ins on opening night. Practically all of the fish were taken on drifted sandworms in the evening hours, including Ray Thilberg's 13.12 first place winner.

The spring porgy run occurred in brief spurts, but May 24 was about the peak of the Peconic action with a number of scup in the 2 pound class taken in the Nassau Point/Jessup's/Middle Grounds zone. Most of the North Shore was enjoying a mixed bag through the tail end of May with anglers taking their pick of lingering flounder, blackfish from Eaton's east

(Continued on next page.)



Loads of fluke were available and there were loads of shorts among the keepers.



1984 had to go down in the record book as one of the outstanding blackfish years.



A typical short fluke taken off Mattituck Inlet.

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to Orient and off City Island as well, mackerel around Smithtown and Crane's, and early bass off Cold Spring Harbor.

Summer species made news in the columns just after Memorial Day when Steve Spinelli boated a 15½ pound fluke off Mattituck Inlet on a squid strip, and bluefish in numbers responded to diamond jigs around Jessup's Neck and off buoy 17. By early June, nighttime catches of weaks aboard the Brand X from Greenport dropped to less than a dozen per trip, but bluefish compensated nicely as they have in past seasons.

From mid-June until mid-November bluefish seemed to be everywhere. Bonanza time began around June 7 out east, according to Art White at the A.P. White Bait Shop in Greenport. George Valentine at Four Winds saw a good showing of blues in a variety of sizes from 2 to 13 pounds north of the Lilco platform around June 28, and huge numbers of cock-tails were popping corks in Smithtown Bay and off Cranes Neck by mid-month. Bill Collins on the Ever Ready had banner days in reports dated July 19. In the Peconics trolling tubes in Flanders Bay for 2-5 pound fish was the mode early in July and jigging began in the Sluice, the Race, and Pigeon Rip at mid-month.

Alligators, slammers and gorillas were newsmakers from early August on. Fish to 18 pounds came into the New Rochelle area first with an occasional 15 pounder off Eatons. Night catches on the Ever Ready described Charles Calby's 20 and Andy Hunt's 17 on August 23rd. Billy Vassilio weighed an 18 at Jack's Bait and Oscar Navaret won the Connecticut Bluefish sweepstakes with a 19.53 off Stamford at August's end. In late September, the Maioranas weighed a 17.9 at Four Winds, and the Klondike VIII was busy with fish to 15 lbs. around Stamford and Stratford. Weigh-ins in late September included Ron Silverman's 20 at Huntington Prop and a 21.7 by Johnson and Miller at Glen Cove Sport. However, some of the largest blues were the 20s weighed at Jack's Bai, including a 24 by Cosslett and Kincade on September 27. Plum Gut had tremendous numbers of blues at times and most of the fish reported were 4 to 14 lbs. However, Juanita Venable whipped a 19.9 to make the November 8 report by the Prowler.

Reports for the summer flounder season were generally good, especially as far as numbers were concerned. Doormats were mentioned from time to time as well. Periodic dragging around Miller Place and Rocky Point in mid-June and again at the end of August clobbered that fishing, much to the consternation of local tackle shops, and the Long Island Sound run in the Hortons area suffered the same fate at the end of June.

Hortons fish of 4 pounds or more made up some nice catches for Larry

Ciccotto and Clark Bellows of the Prime Time II in mid-June, and fish of 10.8 and 10.12 were recorded by Joe Bilella and Kim Morrison. Catches around Bayville were quite good at the end of June, according to John's Gun and the Cedars saw a lot of 4-6 pound fish around Lloyds, Cold Spring Harbor, and off the Center Island Reef. Between dragging activity, Dick Brown at Dicks in Mount Sinai weighed some fluke in the 7 lb. class.

Gardiner's fluking began and ended with tons of small fish. Catches off the Ruins were reported by Art White as early as July 5. Throwback to keeper ratios ranged anywhere from 1:4 to 8:1 through the summer, but there always seemed to be enough 14-17 inch fish around to keep smiles on anglers' faces. There were fluke around Gardiner's as late as September 27 although most fluke fishing had stopped by mid-September. A few doormats were reported from the run, though not many. The best fish was Laura Heron's reported by the Blue Albatross on August 2. Port of Egypt weighed some good fish for the Fishalot and the Boanne, including an 11.2, and Rod DeLisle had a 10.5 for the Prowler's records.

Blackfish were so numerous on the Sound that there was very little time lost between the end of the spring run and the beginning of the fall fishing. The best numbers from the Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station and the Mattituck Fishing Station were reported during the June run rather late in the month, including a number of 10s and 8s. A 14 pounder was weighed by Art White from the 67 Steps before the July 26 report.

Fall reporting as such began around August 30 when Rod deLisle first began to fish local tautog off Plum and the Gulls with the Prowler. The East End had so many 6 to 8 pound fish that the average weight of fish in most catches was pushed well above 4 pounds on most boats on most days. Between September 6 and December 2, many tautog over 10 lbs. were reported. The largest of the lot, Marie Raycroft's 14.2, taken on the Blue Albatross in mid-October, is a possible women's world record in the 30 pound line class. Other bulldogs included George Sabino's 10-12, Walt Rustowitz' 10-4, Arlene Dovner's 10-5, Frank Welti's 12-12, Dick Dovner's 11-8, Roy Gamble's 11-8, and Matt Anderson's 11-0. It was indeed the kind of year when, as Dave Brennan of the Peconic Star put it, "if you didn't fish blackfish this fall, you were crazy."

There was good tautog angling back west as well. Eatons, No Nations, and Execution, as well as the Connecticut Reefs held plenty of fish for boats from City Island like the Sea King, Ebb Tide, and Apache. Rachel Hiller had a 10-0 and Scott Lindsay weighed a 16-3 monster at Jack's Bait which may go into the books as a new men's 16 pound test world mark.

Other species made news, too. Bass

gossip was hard to come by, but the fishing had its usual pattern. Early action began in mid-June on schoolies off Prospect Point, according to Johns Gun and the first mid-sized fish was Jim Wohlfuss' 28, recorded at Huntington Prop on the 21st of that month. In the July 19 report were three fish over 25 including Mike Black's 25, Joe Dimaggio's 28 and Pete Amato's 40-6, all taken back in the western Sound. Vinnie Gray had a 26 in a catch reported on September 6 and there was one 30 reported at Greenlawn Sport for the September 27 report.

Naturally there were bass in the Sluice and the Gut, but pinhookers provided scant data. Some of the best fishing in that area seemed to occur during the Thanksgiving period.

Occasional weakfish came from Sound reports during the summer, usually as by-catches. Denise Russell weighed a 13-7 that was the biggest in our data, and there were fish of 11-6 and 11-8 weighed at Warrens in Aquabogue for the September 13 report. Billy Collins ran into a nice pod of tiderunners on the Ever Ready just before the August 30 report and the Rocky Point Fishing Stop weighed one of its biggest fish, a 9-6, in mid-June.

The Peconics had a summer run of squeteague, though not as strong as last year's. The fishing began around July 19 and lasted off and on through September 30 when the draggers moved into the bay.

Fall flounder took a back seat to the tautog, but reports indicated the usual picture. A few flatties got past the draggers in the Peconics, but most of the activity was around Orient Point and Pettys with occasional good catches through the first of December.

Then there were porgies! The big summer run in the Peconics was in progress on the Middle Grounds around June 14 with mixed sizes throughout the area by late June. Fish in the 3/4 to 1 1/2 pound class were all over Long Island Sound by July 26 and the last of those fish were still being caught at October's end. The New London fishing of the Brand X and Peconic Star did not amount to much in terms of numbers although there were some 3 1/2 pound scup reported.

The best of the summer porgy fishing on the western Sound seemed to occur around buoys 11B and 24C just before the September 20 reports. The North Star, Apache, and Sea King out of City Island got in on that action after a summer of mixed bag fishing.

The kind of stuff that dreams and myths are made of happened to a group of fishermen off Mulford in early October. Fishing soft bait there for blackfish, they ran across a pod of outsized "deep sea" porgies and registered fish from 3 1/2 to 7 1/4 pounds on the scales at Jamesport Bait. Has anyone ever heard of any bigger scup anywhere?

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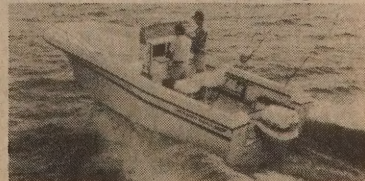
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MAKE "CENTS" WITH \$

by Gary Diamond

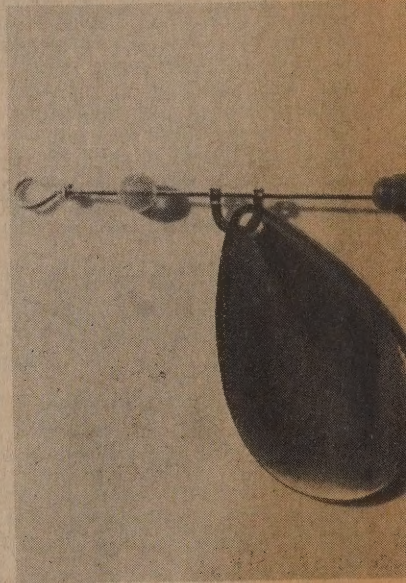
Everyone has a particular ritual they go through when it comes to fishing tackle. Mine is taking inventory and restocking during the month of March. Not having performed this task for the past two seasons, I ventured to the local tackle shop with my list of needs. The store was well stocked with every conceivable lure, but the prices just about knocked my

socks off. Three years of not having to buy lures and now seeing the results of inflation shocked me into the world of reality: tackle is expensive. Even the prices at the discount stores were high. In fact, they were in many cases, just as high, if not higher, than those of the local tackle shop. There was only one answer to my dilemma: make my own spinners.

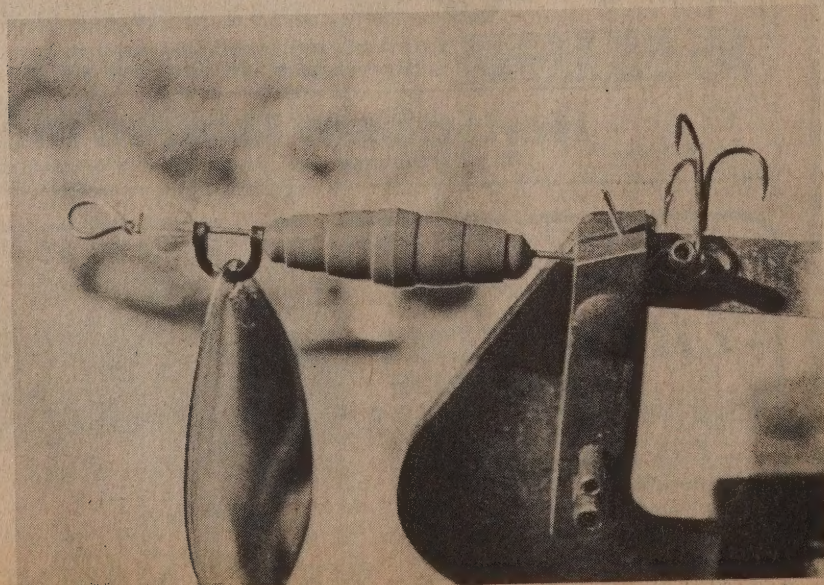
Not being a mechanical genius and at times having trouble walking and chewing gum at the same time, I carefully studied the intricate construction of one of the few remaining spinners in my tackle box. Nearly all spinners have the same essential components. A wire or center shaft, the blade, clevis, body and hook. Even to me, this much was obvious.



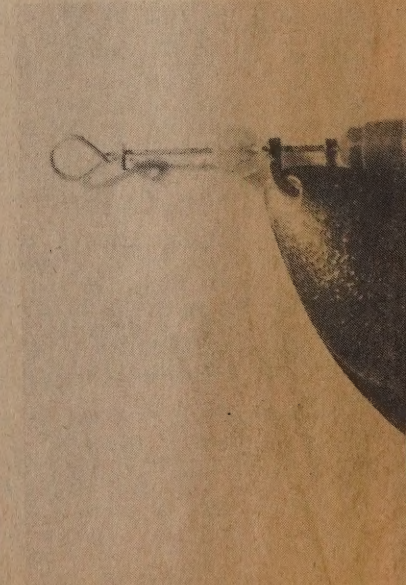
With as little as \$10 invested in components, you can make \$50 worth of spinners.



The body, blade, clevis and bearing the shaft. Once in position, you



The hook is placed in the bend, looped over the cranking arm and held in the forming jaws. After a half turn, release the wire, and the hook is permanently attached to a perfect loop.



The entire operation takes about 30 seconds. The components you select, costs vary.

SPINNERS

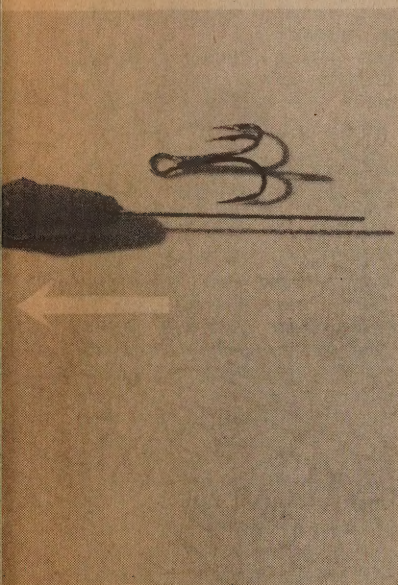
After spending a few bucks on components at a local mail order outfit, I set about the task of making my very own spinner. Two hours later, blood dripping from my thumb and a pile of short pieces of wire scattered across the workbench, the first spinner was complete. I was so proud of my creation, I even named it—but, unfortunately, the law prevents me from

conveying such information in print. Knowing full well that I couldn't produce more than six lures a week, due to the healing process my hands had to undergo before re-starting the procedure, I sought out some advice. The same mail order outfit that sold me the components also had a little gadget called a "Wire Former." This little gadget took a short hunk of wire and turned it into a perfect spinner in less time than it takes to talk about it. It attaches the hook to the wire by forming a loop around the eye, then allows you to drop the body, beads, clevis and blade on the shaft and finally, forms a perfect loop on the top end of the wire to complete the job. Total cost: 39 cents. Amazingly, the whole process only took about 30 seconds and to my astonishment,

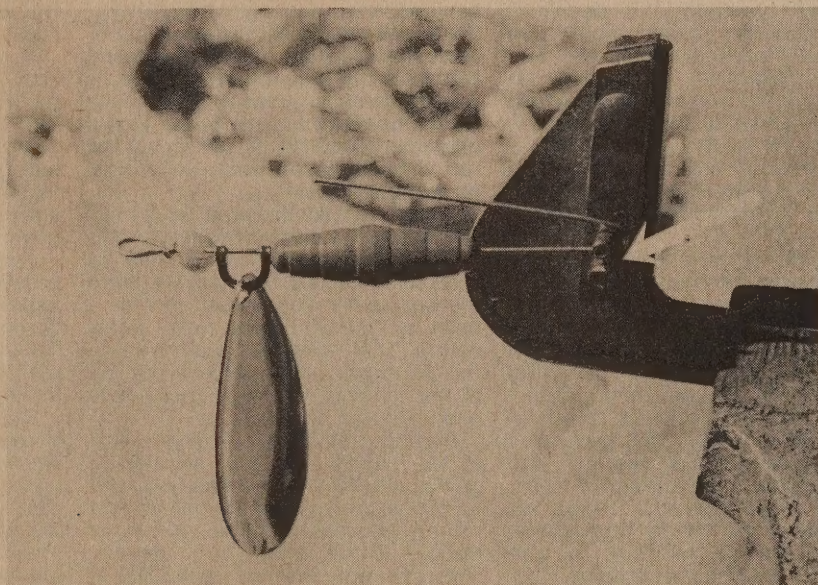
there was not a single drop of blood oozing from my thumb.

This particular wire former is capable of making multiple blade spinners, safety pin spinners and other little gadgets such as wire leaders and surgical hoses at a fraction of the cost you would have to pay anywhere. One of the other tasks it performs is preventing you from being committed to the rubber rooms when winter hits and it's too cold to do anything else. Once you've mastered the operation of the wire former, you can be as creative as you like and in the time you've just taken to read this article, you could have filled your tackle box with thirty-nine cent spinner baits.

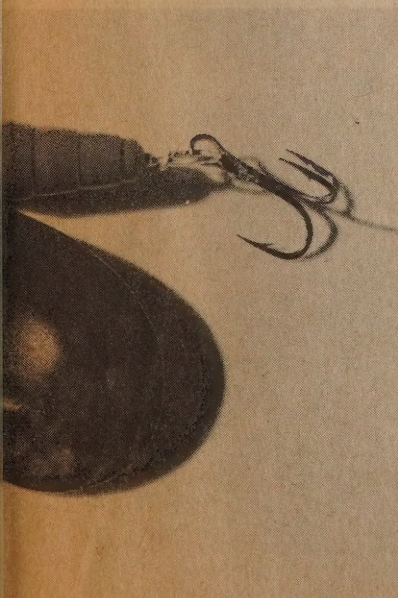
The Yost Wire Former is available from: Tackle Crafters, 14303 Robcaste Road, Phoenix, Maryland 21121.



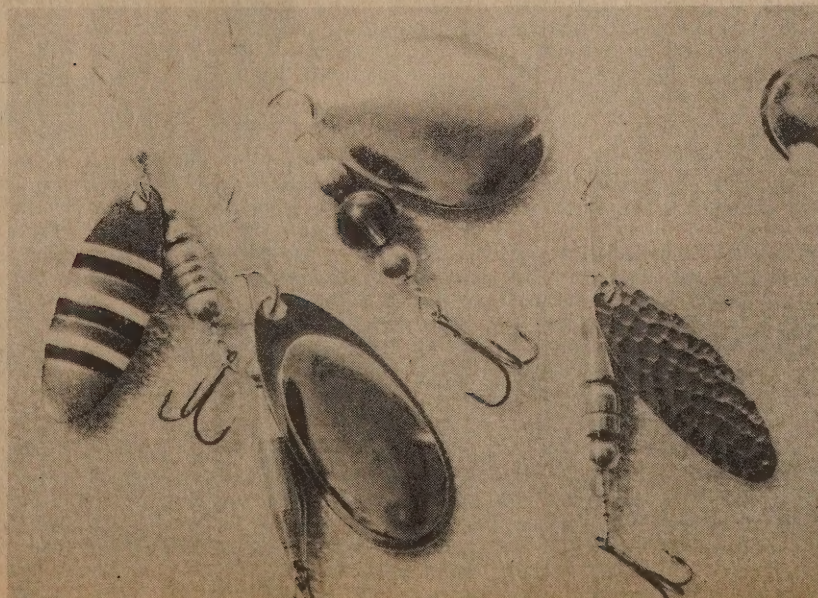
The shaft is now placed between the bending posts and a perfect 180 degree bend can be formed.



The shaft is now placed between the bending posts and a perfect 180 degree bend can be formed.



With a bit of imagination, you'll be able to create many of your own special designs.



With a bit of imagination, you'll be able to create many of your own special designs.

A LITTLE PLANNING GOES A LONG WAY

by Matt Ahern

Planning your fishing trips ahead can add a new dimension to the game, not to mention more fish to your bucket.

To plan a fishing trip isn't easy. Planning goes beyond the choice of where you fish or what you fish for. Actually, this isn't planning—it's deciding. Proper planning entails more than that. And if you fail to plan well and cover all bases, you can easily ruin your day; a day perhaps about which you've dreamed for weeks; one which caused much sweating and maybe a bit of conniving to arrange. I can tell you some sad tales about this lack of planning. In fact, one quickly comes to mind.

I was party boat fishing for sea porgies on this particular day I have in mind. The boat was anchored over the Iberia Wreck off Long Beach, and beautiful, extra-large porgies were coming over the rail in unending numbers—down, up—down, up—which is the way this wreck will often produce in August. Double-headers were common. There was only one catch (the good Lord makes the roses, and the devil puts the thorns on them): we were losing riggings in rapid order—an average of one rigging for every dozen porgies.

Eventually this nuisance caused my companion at the rail a bit of grief. "I can't reach bottom anymore," he told me. "I lost so damn much line breaking off those snagged riggings, there's hardly any left on the reel." He began rummaging through his tackle bag. "How about that?" he said. "I don't have my extra spool of line. I must have left it at home." Fortunately for this fellow, one of the fishermen down the line loaned him a reel, which enabled him to finish out the day.

This story has a happy ending; but there are many such stories that don't. What if that fisherman had been dunking bait where replacements of whatever nature weren't available? That lack of necessary equipment would surely have brought his fishing to a grinding halt.

Okay, you say, so the guy forgot; we all forget. True. But why did he forget? Easy enough to answer. He didn't plan ahead; he didn't cover all bases. And when you do that, you get into trouble. Planning a fishing trip means nothing more than anticipating what may be needed, with some thought as to what might possibly happen throughout the day.

Had that fellow checked his reel the evening before and filled it to capacity with new line, it would never have been depleted no matter how 'sticky' the wreck was. If he'd made a list of what was essential and then checked his tackle bag before leaving home, it would have been impossible to leave without that extra spool of line. That's only common sense, of course; but the fact is that it wasn't done. No wonder he got into difficulty.

Lest you think otherwise, let me say that this fellow was no beginner—had he been, there would have been an acceptable excuse. I could tell from the way he handled himself that he'd been party boat fishing many times before. That fellow just wasn't using the old noggin. Had he been put out of the running, the fault would have been his, and his alone.

Perhaps this is only a minor detail in the overall picture of the fishing game; maybe I'm overreacting, but let me assure you that no matter how minor, successful fishermen have learned to pay attention to details. They plan and they plan well. This is what separates them from run-of-the-mill fishermen. Note that fellow who came to the rescue of that unthinking fisherman. This Good Samaritan had planned so far ahead, he even considered the possibility that the reel he used might break down. He carried a spare.

Of such stuff are good fishermen made.

I could go on and on in this vein, but you know where I'm heading. Without sensible planning, we fellows bring down upon our heads only frustration, trials and tribulations and, of course, fewer fish—perhaps no fish at all!

But planning doesn't only include carrying extra line, reels, and such "minor" details.

For instance, those of us who do much fishing over obstructed bottoms—wrecks, reefs, banks, rock piles, and so forth—know we can expect to lose much terminal tackle. The mortality rate on hooks, sinkers, and various bits of hardware may indeed be high. Some spots, like the aforementioned Iberia Wreck, can be murder. The loss of hardware isn't crucial; in fact, if you believe in the bottom fisherman's adage that claims

the less hardware you use, the better (and you should), any loss in this department may indeed be a blessing. But what do you do if you run out of hooks and sinkers?

If you're fishing aboard a party boat, this is no great problem, for replacements are readily available. But the only way you can protect yourself when going it alone is to make certain you carry enough spares to see you through the day. Here, again, you've got to do some planning.

I can't help you too much here because I don't know where you'll be fishing, but if you carry at least a dozen extra sinkers, plus two dozen hooks of the correct size, you should get through the day unscathed when fishing obstructed areas.

But if you do much fishing, this can become a bit expensive. No longer will you find sinkers at a penny an ounce, and hooks at 15 cents a dozen. You've got to help yourself a little—especially you fellows who intend to take up bottom fishing in a big way. I'll tell you what I do; how I plan ahead.

I make sinkers by the hundreds, buy loose hooks in 1000 lots and do my own hook snelling. I've been doing this for years and I no longer worry about running short just when the fishing gets good. In fact, I don't care how 'sticky' my fishing area may be. I'll cheerfully surrender all the hooks and sinkers demanded because I know these sticky areas are the places where the largest fish are found, especially blackfish. I've won many a blackfish pool by doing this. This is what I mean by planning.

Sinker-making is a snap and it's an enjoyable pastime on those long winter evenings now staring us in the face. You may be sure I watch little TV during winter. All that's required is a sinker mold which will cast the size sinkers desired, some scrap lead, and the necessary heat source. Your kitchen stove will supply that. Make sure, though, that you have adequate ventilation—they tell me lead fumes are toxic. I overlooked mentioning this in a sinker making article I wrote a few years ago. I caught you-know-what.

Snelling hooks is also a snap.

Many fishermen I know snell their

own hooks, but most fellows don't. These negative-thinking fishermen believe that hook-snelling is difficult and time consuming. And besides that, these fellows believe they'd never learn how to turn out a professional looking job.

Absolutely not so.

All these fellows need is a work area and either a small bench vise, or one of those lightweight fly-tying vises our freshwater brethren use. Add a supply of hooks and snelling material and they're in business.

Once these fellows start snelling their own hooks, they won't want to stop. It is indeed an enjoyable pastime. Not only because one can experiment and turn those snells into any length desired—from ordinary hook snells and extra-long cod leaders, to outside fluke leaders that mean so much when fishing—but once these doubtful fellows get into the swing of things, they'll see their catch of these fish increase. They'll save a bundle, too.

Another problem is where to get supplies. And even when they do find a source of supply, they don't know how to make the necessary hook snelling knot and end loop needed to make a professional looking job.

Concern yourselves no longer, guys. I've got all the important infor-

mation you need.

For hooks and snelling material, get in touch with Midland Tackle Company, 66 Route 17, Sloatsburg, NY 10974. Midland offers a free catalog and in it you'll find listed snelling material (47" lengths—just what you need), plus loose hooks from flounder to cod—and a rundown on each of our bottom feeders, with the necessary leader material weights for a proper job. Don't waste time. Send for it now! When spring rolls around, you'll have everything ready to go.

Now—how to snell your own hooks.

DuPont has put out a 36 page booklet on knots. It contains clear diagrams and precise, easy to follow, step-by-step instructions on tying every kind of knot we bottom fishermen have yearned to learn for a long time. In fact, included are several I've never heard of.

There are two methods alone on how to snell hooks, good diagrams on how to tie the important Improved Clinch Knot, plus many, many more, such as the Palomar and Blood Knot. The Surgeon's End Loop needed to finish off hook snells and leaders in place of the usual Perfection Loop is also included. This booklet is just what we fishermen have needed for years. This handy booklet can be carried in your tackle box, or on your

person. And best of all—it's free. (Which is something we don't see much of today.)

DuPont sent me a supply of these booklets for readers of this magazine. If you want one, send me a stamped, self-addressed #10 business size envelope (about 4x9"). Send it to my home at 39 King Street, Hampton Bays, NY 11946. I'll get the booklet off to you by return mail. One thing: **don't** send your request to the office, for this will only entail delay and unnecessary expense.

Oh—one more thing on planning. Make a list of what you expect to need the night before you go fishing. And in glaring red letters put down **BAIT!** Don't get out there and find you must ask your buddies that heart-rending question: "Who's got the bait?" I can tell you some sad stories about that. Ask my good friend Sid Ornstein of Peekskill. He can tell you a dilly.

So you see, doing the things mentioned in this article is nothing more than planning your future trips with care. When you plan ahead, you'll find your sport takes on new dimensions and becomes even more enjoyable. Doing so will also cause you to experiment and to think of new ways to improve your fishing.

And that's what puts fish in the bucket!



Plan to carry extra hooks and sinkers when fishing rock-strewn areas.

ON THE MARKET IN 1985: SPINNING REELS

Part One — *by Al Ristori*

A look at what you'll find in the way of spinning reels on tackle shop shelves in 1985.

The modern spinning reel may not look a great deal different from those we "old-timers" have been familiar with for decades, but any similarity is only superficial. I hardly feel like an old-timer, but you don't have to sport many gray hairs in order to be among those Americans who started with re-

volving spool reels before ever seeing one of those curious spinners.

It was in 1953 that this youngster was presented with a Nyolite spinning reel. That all-synthetic model was an attempt to overcome the corrosion problems which beset the early European imports. The nylon gears of

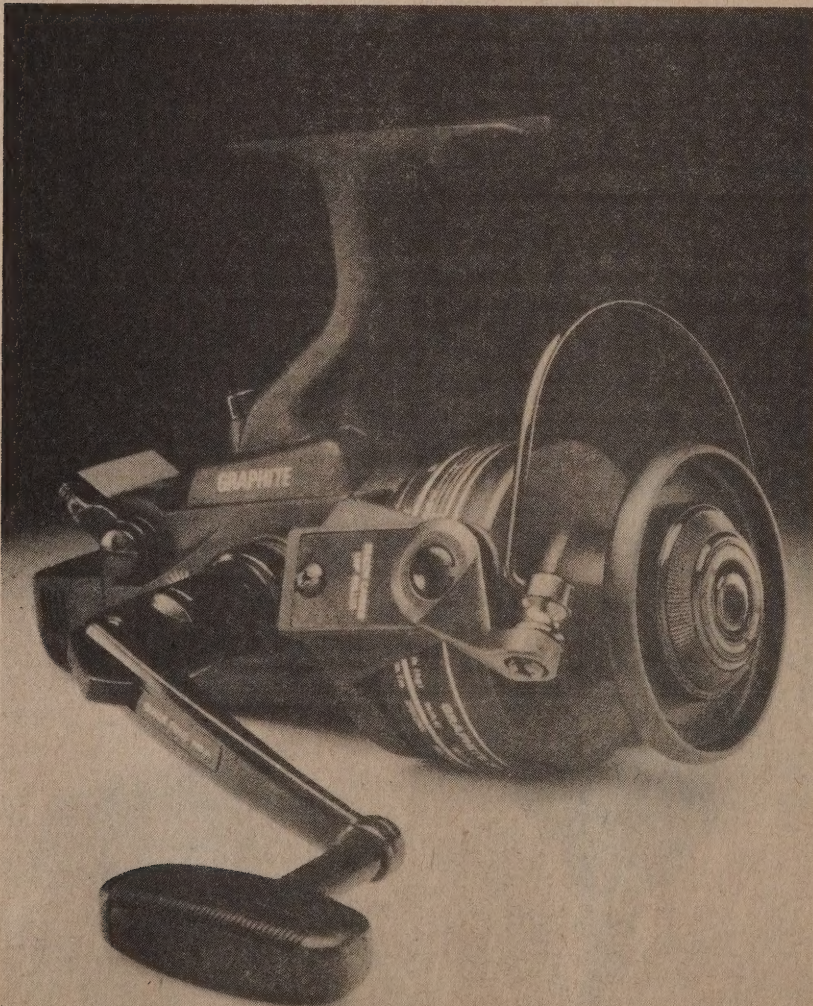
that age didn't hold up any better than you'd expect them to, though I did catch hundreds of porgies, kingfish, blowfish, sea robins and other kid-pleasers with the Nyolite.

While the basic concept of spinning remains exactly the same, we now have a multitude of improvements that makes this form of fishing infinitely easier and more pleasurable. The bails of yesteryear were cranky and unreliable. Just a touch out of alignment, and they wouldn't close. Bail springs were constantly breaking, and many pros opted for manual pick-ups in order not to be caught short by such problems. Most bail arms had stationary guides which quickly grooved and then shredded your mono. Today we have bails which are not only reliable, but can be opened and closed by hand if you desire to do so—and all but the very cheapest of spinners have roller line guide to reduce friction and line wear.

Thirty years ago, metal spinning reels used to corrode before your eyes. Today all the better ones (even those intended almost exclusively for freshwater areas) are treated to substantially reduce the corrosion problem. Brass and stainless steel internal parts are now often complemented by graphite composite bodies, rotors and spools. Graphite parts not only won't corrode—they also reduce the reel's weight considerably.

The basics have been improved part-by-part and function-by-function. However, it doesn't end there. Now we have additional features such as the new means to instantly adjust drag. Daiwa, Shimano and Browning have all come out with their own systems this year, and others are likely to follow. Rear drags looked odd when introduced on the Cardinal spinning reels many years ago, but they've now become virtually standard. That applies even more to the skirted spool. It wasn't many years ago when the Mitchell 300 "owned" the spinning market, yet today there are few internal spool reels left to choose from.

We "old-timers" can also appreciate the high retrieves available on modern spinning reels. It was some job to work popping plugs with those



Daiwa Sensor Tournament Series

old 3:1 gear ratios, but no problem with the modern 5:1 spinners. If you want to cast one-handed, you can do so now with the aid of systems built into the bails of many top-of-the-line models from almost all major manufacturers. Each company calls it something else, but they all permit you to both pick up the line and open the bail with one finger. These systems require a self-centering bail, which can be a nuisance when you try to tighten a hook against a guide for carrying or storage.

Remember when lefties had to find a spinner with the handle on the right side in order to spin properly? Their choice was limited then, but practically all modern spinning reels have gearing which permits the shifting of the handle to either side.

Despite all the advances in spinning, the cost of the modern reel is often well below that charged for quality spinners 20 years ago. And today's dollar is worth only a fraction of what it was then!

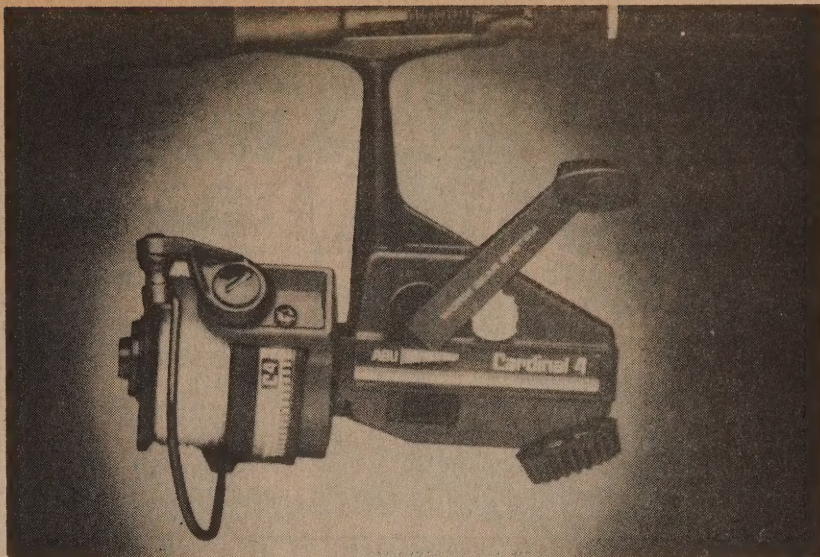
Now let's take a look at what the manufacturers have to offer in new spinning reels for 1985:

Daiwa: The company that made skirted spools the standard and also first started making these reels with graphite components, has gone along with the definite trend toward rear drags. Their new top line is the Sensor Tournament series with graphite components, three stainless steel ball bearings, a silicon nitride line roller and the Dual Lever Drag in which you pre-set the maximum drag and then use the Strike Lever for fine adjustments. This is a saltwater line with the smallest model (ST 2670) carrying 275 yards of 12 pound. Biggest of the four models with 4.1:1 gear ratios is the ST 9070 with 330 yards of 20 pound.

The biggest sales this year will probably come on the new Strike Gold series which is involved in a big rebate program. These rear drag reels feature graphite components and a stainless steel ball bearing. An extra spool comes with all but the surf size GS 4050 and GS 7050, and there is the Autocast one-handed casting feature on six models. The new Apollo Gold line provides rear drag, graphite spool and stainless steel ball bearing at a very affordable price. Last year's Sensor Graphite rear drag series is still available, and it includes four Autocast models. Spool drag reels haven't been pushed out altogether, as Daiwa still carries the Black Gold and Regal Gold lines plus the classic Silver series 4000C, 7000C and 9000C that popularized skirted spools and manual knock-down bails.

ABU-Garcia: The new Cardinal 3 and 4 models have direct-drive worm gear systems with a new wide-ranging Fulcrum rear drag and graphite-reinforced brake discs. Also featured are a graphite spool, stainless steel ball bearing and aluminum oxide line roller. The Cardinal 3 weighs 8.5 ounces and holds 200 yards of 6

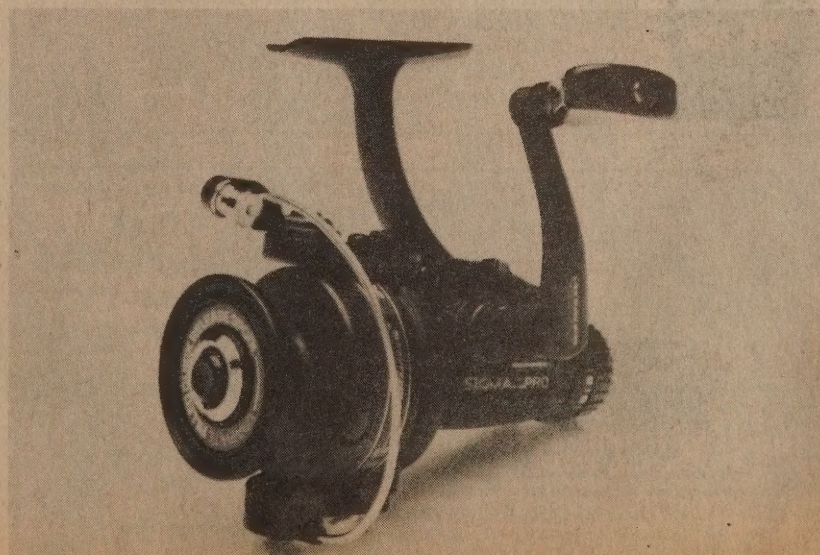
(Continued on next page.)



ABU/Garcia Cardinal 4



Penn 104



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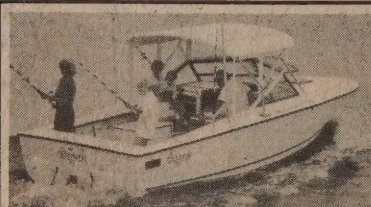
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pound, while the 10.4 ounce Cardinal 4 holds 160 yards of 12 pound. Both have 5.1:1 gear ratios, come with a free extra spool and carry a five year warranty. Also carrying that warranty are the 700 series models (including three smaller spinners with Fast Cast one-handed casting, and three salt-water reels with a stainless steel ball bearing and Supercote corrosion-resistant treatment) plus the medium priced 650s. The red 550s provide Cardinal engineering at a modest price.

Penn: The mold has been broken at one of the most conservative tackle companies. For the 1984 season they introduced their first non-American made products—a line of Japanese spinning reels made to Penn standards, but designed to sell at more modest prices. For 1985 that skirted spool series gets the new, mid-sized 104 which takes 200 yards of 15 pound test and has a 4.3:1 gear ratio. However, a much bigger move for 1985 is into the imported 200 series that incorporates most of the modern spinning advances such as rear drag, graphite housing, rotor and skirted spool—and Auto Bail one-handed casting. This is the first entry into rear drags for Penn, though they still prefer the spool drag for their large line of American-made spinners—which even includes the internal spool Spinfisher Z series. The new 200s (they didn't even make the catalog) are made to Penn standards with stainless steel ball bearing drive and shaft. All feature silent anti-reverse and have high speed gear ratios. The 220GR weighs 6.5 ounces and takes 130 yards of 6 pound, while the 230GR is 7.6 ounces and holds 140 yards of 8 pound. Largest is the 240GR at 10.2 ounces with a capacity of 150 yards of 12 pound.

Shakespeare: The top-rated 2400 series is being touted as "new" because the EZ Cast one-handed casting system has been added. These rear drag spinners also have Skil-Cast line winding control for optimal casts, optional silent anti-reverse, pushbutton graphite skirted spool, stainless steel ball bearings and shaft, and fold-down bail with Selective Internal Trip. The model lineup in this and the other high-quality Sigma-Pro and Sigma lines remain the same. However, there are lots of changes at lower price levels. The Alpha-X rear drag series now includes the 2101B 030 (255 yards of 6 pound), 035 (160 yards of 8 pound) and 040 (230 yards of 8 pound)—all with EZ Cast one-handed control. Despite a bargain price, this series also includes a stainless steel ball bearing, silent anti-reverse, Selective Internal Trip and pop-off spool. The even less expensive Alpha 2100 series still has a rear drag, stainless steel ball bearing, Selective Internal Trip and EZ Cast on the same size reels. The re-worked Omni-X series includes graphite-reinforced pop-off spools and may be the lowest priced of all rear drag lines.

THE FISHERMAN QUIZ

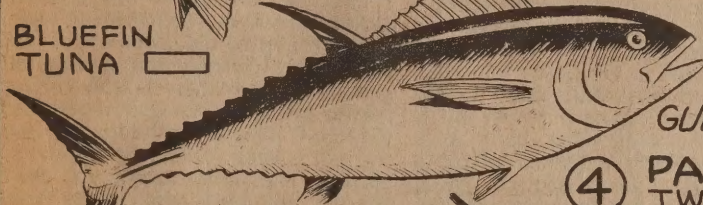
- ① WHICH OF THESE FISH LIVES THE LONGEST?
SPINEY DOGFISH ☐



CODFISH ☐

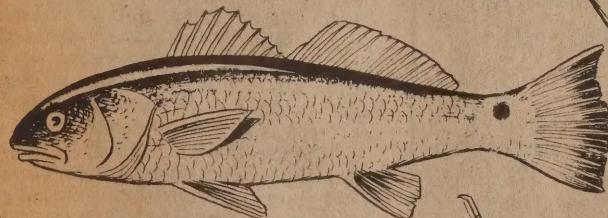


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- ⑤ MOST FARM PONDS IN THE U.S. ARE NOW STOCKED WITH SMALLMOUTH BLACK BASS. TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐



- ② COOTS ARE CONDEMNED BY HUNTERS BECAUSE THEY ARE BLAMED FOR EATING SUPPLIES OF DUCK FOOD. THIS HABIT IS...



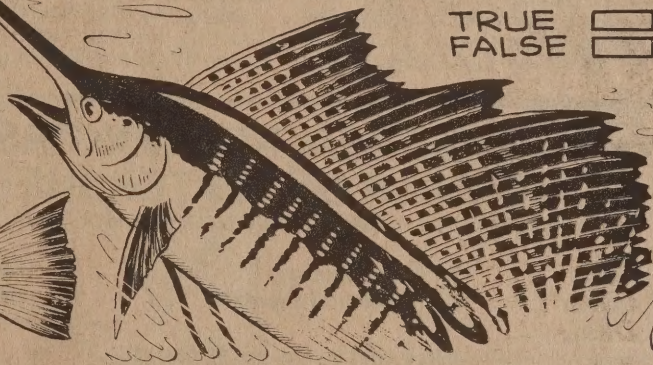
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

ANSWERS
AT THE BOTTOM
OF THE PAGE.

BY FRED
GUARDINEER

- ④ PACIFIC SAILFISH GROW TWICE AS LARGE AS ATLANTIC SAILFISH AND ARE MORE NUMEROUS.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐



- ⑥ WHO OWNS THE COD? WHEN IT IS BOATED WITH TWO HOOKS IN ITS MOUTH: ONE FROM ONE FISHERMAN AND ONE FROM ANOTHER NEARBY AT THE RAIL... IS A FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION ABOARD PARTY BOATS.



1-SPINEY DOGFISH 30 YRS, CODFISH 23, B.F. TUNA 13. 2-FALSE. COOTS FEED MAINLY ON MUSK GRASS OF WHICH DUCKS EAT VERY LITTLE. 3-ALL ARE NAMES FOR THE SAME FISH. 4-TRUE. 5-FALSE. MOST ARE STOCKED WITH LARGEMOUTHS. 6-THE COD BELONGS TO THE ANGLER WHOSE HOOK IS FARTHEST INSIDE THE COD'S MOUTH, SAYS "FISHERMAN" EXPERT, WRITER AND COD MAVEN MATT AHERN.

A HARD LOOK AT THE CROTON WATERSHED

by Jim Capossela

When the weather gets cold, the fishing can get hot only an hour or so from New York City and only a few hours from most Long Islanders. Nestled among the suburban counties of Westchester and Putnam are the 14 reservoirs of New York City's Croton Watershed. Ice fishing is permitted on all but one of these deep, clean productive lakes.

Unlike several Long Island still waters, black bass cannot be kept here in winter. Thus ice fishermen concentrate on trout (brown, rainbow and lake), pickerel, and several species of panfish (chiefly white and yellow perch). Without question, the best fishing for all species is just after the ice forms; so take advantage of

those first few weeks of safe ice if you can.

If you are new to the Croton Watershed, you're apt to be overwhelmed by the amount of available water: about 12,000 acres in aggregate for the 14 reservoirs. This article will highlight three of the better ice-fishing lakes and some of the better spots on those lakes. Along the way, we'll discuss some of the lures, baits, and techniques that have worked over the years on the various species. Note that while these are all technically reservoirs, we will use the words reservoir and lake interchangeably here.

One of the most interesting is Lake Glenida, located right within the village of Carmel in Putnam County.

This glacial lake plummets more than a hundred feet, and oxygen levels are excellent. There is a small population of natural, self-sustaining lake trout in Glenida, and these forktails are usually taken near bottom in 25 to 50 feet in winter by my observations and experience. Rainbow trout are stocked here, but this fishery is diminishing due to the appearance of sawbellies (baitfish). These landlocked herring compete with the rainbows for plankton and unfortunately, the 'bows are not switching over to the sawbellies as they mature. As a result, the conservation department plans to stock browns here this spring for the first time. Browns grow extremely fast on a diet of sawbellies, so next year ice fishing on Glenida could get even more interesting than it already is.

A large-sized Swedish Pimple jig is a good lure for lakers. For bait, some specialists trap their own suckers, dace and chubs claiming that these hearty baits work better than shiners which is about all you will find in local sport shops this time of year.

While deep Glenida offers some fine trout fishing, there is also a good blend of warm water species. Pickerel are abundant, as are extremely nice-size yellow perch. The weedy zone that holds these two fish, in addition to crappies and bass, is relatively narrow, so stick close to shore. In general, the southern and eastern shorelines slope more gradually than the west bank. One good spot for pickerel is at the extreme southern tip of the lake. Another is just off the monument along Rt. 301. When you chop a hole and discover that it's only four or five feet deep, drop a shiner down anyway. Those weed-loving pickerel can sometimes be taken amazingly close to shore. When fishing water this shallow, it's preferable to use an above water tip-up. Unfortunately, topside tip-ups only function when the temperature is above freezing.

I have never caught a pickerel through the ice with a lure, though I've heard of a few instances when it's happened. The best attractor is live shiners, and it pays to experiment with ones of different sizes. Sometimes, the smaller ones work better.

Titicus is another reservoir that is attractive to the ice fisherman who can't quite get himself to park where there is no chance of a trout. This is

THE FOURTEEN RESERVOIRS OF THE CROTON WATERSHED

(All are located in Westchester and Putnam Counties)

Name of Reservoir	Principal Species For The Ice Fisherman	Open To Ice Fishing
Kensico		No
Croton	White and yellow perch, crappies	Yes
Muscoot	White and yellow perch, crappies, pickerel, norlunge	Yes
Amawalk	White and yellow perch, pickerel	Yes
Cross River	Yellow perch, crappies, brown trout	Yes
Titicus	Brown trout, white and yellow perch, pickerel	Yes
Croton Falls	Brown trout, white perch	Yes
West Branch	Brown trout, white and yellow perch, pickerel	Yes
Gilead	Rainbow trout, lake trout, yellow perch, pickerel	Yes
Glenida	Rainbow trout, lake trout, yellow perch, crappies, pickerel	Yes
East Branch	Pickerel, white and yellow perch, crappies	Yes
Middle Branch	White and yellow perch, pickerel	Yes
Bog Brook	White perch	Yes
Diverting	White and yellow perch	Yes

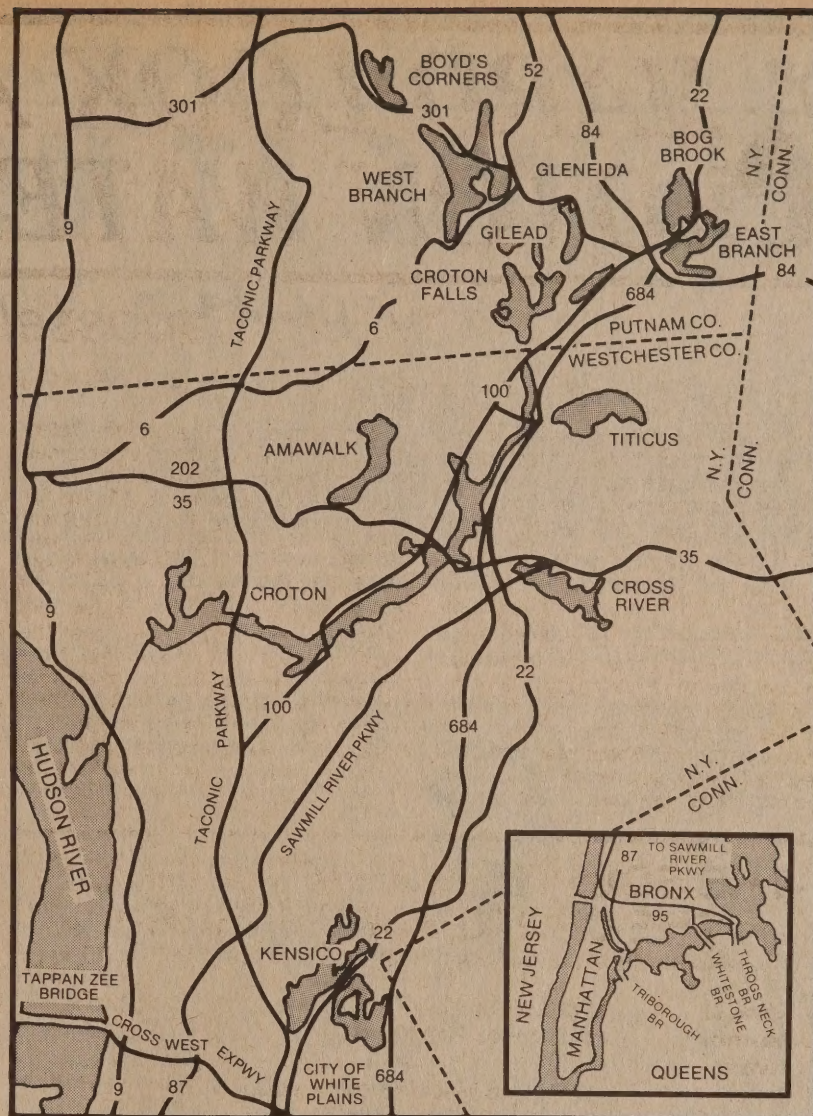
These reservoirs are under the authority of New York City's Department of Water Resources. A valid New York State fishing license is required for all those 16 years of age or older. Also required is a free watershed permit which is available at the Municipal Building in New York City or at the office at the aerators on Kensico reservoir in Valhalla (Westchester County). Hours are generally 9 to 5 and you must show up in person with two driver's license size photos. The permit is good until revoked, which won't happen if you follow the rules outlined in the pamphlet they will give you when you obtain your permit. All N.Y. State Conservation Laws in effect.

one of the five primary brown trout lakes, and it also harbors schools of fightin' size white perch. The trick in this lake is to find the sand bars where both browns and whites tend to stack up early in the winter. Some of these sand bars are located at the northwest corner of the lake. One way to locate a bar is to chop a lot of holes, checking the depth each time to find out where the bottom rises. However, a lot of noise over shallow water will push those wary browns right off the bar. An extremely worthwhile investment would be one of the new depth finders with a transducer that can "see" through the ice. Look for bars, but also seek out river channels and holes. Of course, a simple way to find these ideal winter structures is to visit and map the reservoir of your choice when the water level is down. These lakes are used for drinking water, so a drought of any duration can push the water level down 50 percent or even more. There isn't one of these reservoirs that hasn't been way down at some time or another.

On Titicus, as elsewhere, we've taken the overwhelming majority of our fish with jig poles. In fact, unless we're trying for pickerel, we don't even bring tip-ups any more. For one thing, jigging gives you mobility: if you don't catch anything after a short time, just chop another hole and move. Yet I think the real point of difference is that a jig lure is always moving, flashing and **attracting**. Shiners, on the other hand, sit like statues and underwater they're fairly dark in the first place. With white perch, in particular, a jig pole is the only way to go, because this is strictly a school fish and you don't want to spend any more than ten minutes in an unproductive hole.

Because there is a relatively short ice season down here—sometimes as little as a few weeks—ice fishing has never really been developed. In upstate New York and the Great Lakes region, it's another story. Up there, a much wider array of tackle is available, and techniques are much more highly developed. One innovation that is fairly recent to my knowledge is a tip-up that "collects" the wind to keep the baitfish always moving. One brand name is "The Wind Jigger." It's a great idea. I've never seen it sold around here, but take a look in several of the outdoor mail order catalogs such as Cabela's and Canandaigua. If you subscribe to The Great Lakes Fisherman magazine, you will see dozens of ads for innovative ice-fishing equipment. The free monthly magazine, New York Fish Finder, found at counters of many sport shops, will also plug you in to ice fishing and ice fishing gear.

For browns and whites at Titicus, we've done so well with Swedish Pimples that we seldom try other lures. The size we prefer is 4N, and sometimes we "sweeten the hook" with a mouse grub. These little larval worms are sold 50 or 100 to the carton by most local tackle shops during the



ice fishing season.

When fishing Titicus, remember that the west end, near the dam, is the deeper end. If you want to try for pickerel here, confine your efforts to the much shallower water at the east end of the lake. Seek out weedy coves.

Croton Reservoir is a good destination for the avid panfishermen. At 2259 acres it is the largest of these reservoirs; for some reason it's one of the more lightly fished. One popular spot in recent years has been about a half mile down from the Muscoot dam. Park on Rt. 100, less than a mile south of Whitehall Corners, where you see a little pond (actually an extension of the lake) on the west side of the road. You'll probably see other anglers, who will be concentrating in the "neck" between the island and the mainland. It's a good walk, so it pays to have an ice sled or a pack basket or some contrivance for toting your gear.

Croton is not a trout lake, but this is a good spot for white and yellow perch. Last year, two fishermen deploying tip-ups in this channel had

some of the biggest yellow perch I've ever witnessed. Two taped out at over 15 inches. At times, you will hit a school of whites here too, and crappies are another possibility. Croton is loaded with them. For yellows, I would advise that you do bring along the tip-ups. Although they will hit lures, too, these panfish respond very well to small shiners and even worms.

There are several bait and tackle shops in upper Westchester and Putnam counties near these reservoirs. Bob's Bait and Tackle, at the junction of Rts. 35 and 100 (Whitehall Corners) is well stocked and centrally located. If you're coming up from the island, you can call Bob's at (914) 232-4085 to find out if there's safe ice anywhere. He sells shiners, worms, and mouse grubs, as well as a good range of tip-ups, augers, and ancillary gear.

For anglers heading to the more northerly reservoirs, a well-stocked shop is Larry Foy's Country Store, on Oscawana Lake Road in Putnam Valley; (914) 528-1060.

INSHORE AT MONTAUK

by Capt. John DeMaio

Once again a time for reflection and preparation is with us. As winter slowly goes by we have time to look back over the season past and evaluate it. How did it measure up? We also go into a state of readiness for the new season approaching. Many of us have it all worked out already on how we are going to do better this year. The hot run you found out about too late and also the latest lure you didn't have made up when you needed it. All that will change this coming year. You

most certainly will lead the way in finding and catching and that new lure you're working on in the basement will be a killer.

In this report once again, as in the reports gone down in the past years, I must state that this is the season as I recorded it. My very own findings, feelings and final evaluation. Other fishermen plying the same ocean, same spots may have a different opinion.

Even though the "Vivienne" was in

the water and ready to go the start of March, poor weather held up the first trip until March 16. I fished Cartwright and had a total catch of 16 cod. The next sailing came on the Tuesday, March 20. Three anglers pulled a high total of 176 codfish. Half on bait and the final half on jigs and tubes. Once again Cartwright was the place. Amazing as it may seem, but the weather stayed nice enough to permit another charter to sail the following day. (Incredibly, two nice days in a row.) That big slug of cod that was chasing sand eels across some of Cartwright's high bottom moved. The day ended up revealing 20 cod. This was to be the pattern of the cod season. Find the school and catch good, or pick you way through a day.

Poor weather hurts production. Such was the case on Saturday, the 24th, when a strong northwest wind suggested a prudent selection of area to be fished. A place nearer to home. A mere 8 cod was this bouncy day's final score. Whereas the same spot the day before surrendered 40 codfish.

The last week of March saw a switch to the CIA area. Cartwright was uneven at best and besieged with bergalls. After the killer storm of March 28, 29, a week of hot fishing took place at the CIA. Ori days when the traffic was down your chances were better. In three days of fishing, I recorded 158 cod and some pollock mixed in also. The fish were of an average that topped Cartwright. About 12 lbs., with a few old soakers mixed in. Two cod of approximately 50 lbs. each hit the deck in two consecutive days.

While on the subject the biggest cod for the season was a 57 pounder taken May 2. This fish topped several 50 pounders, and a good showing of 40 lb. class fish and 30 pounders. My largest pollock was a 40 pounder and surprisingly many large hake up to 50 pounds hit the deck of the "Vivienne" this spring.

Too many boats and not enough fish saw the scene of the battle switch to Block Island from CIA by the second half of April. The southwest ledge gave up some good catches of scrod size codfish. I recorded 68 for a bouncy April 21. On April 27, three anglers whipped 82 cod on jigs and tubes in the shallow waters of the Hooter buoy area.

Once again a return to the deep



School bass were present at the Point in surprising numbers, with some larger fish making a showing in October.

water for the rest of May saw some exciting fishing take place in mild weather.

Many fishermen complained on the cod season being a rough one. Granted, it was not as good as the year before, but still I think I did very well. At times, I could attribute my success to making some smart moves which were based on experience of the 30 years past and the advantage of daily pursuit. Then again there were days of pure luck. Such as being anchored over a very slow pick only to have a large school of cod move under the boat and take hold. Maybe that's the key to successful fishing these days. you have to be good and you have to be lucky. You have to be good and lucky!

I normally don't pursue pollock as some other charter boats do. Most of the pursuit takes place south of Block Island. The past several years have seen a slow pollock run with a few highlights for the persistent skippers. Quite simply I caught pollock when I caught them. Over-simplification perhaps, but an accurate account nevertheless.

As usual the first shot at flounder was a thwarted cod trip because of poor weather. On May 4 we ran to the west, Gardiner's Island for flounder because of a rough ocean. We scored with 30 big flounder. The largest was 3¼ pounds. By the end of May the flounder chase was in earnest and the action was local Montauk. From May 22 to the 27th a total of six flounder trips, 4 were half days, racked up 411 big sea flounder. Each day showing many 2 pounders leading up to 3 and 3½ pound snowshoes. Montauk flounder action is best late in the season. As a perfect example on June 13, four anglers on a half day trip logged in 113 flounder. A total of 3 bushels were needed to hold the catch. The fish finally gained some fat and were running a better size. In fact, as late as June 23, I recorded 70 lbs. of flounder. All these late fish were as big as any taken all season.

In spite of heavy boat traffic for flounder, both private and commercial, I believe it was a good year. It amazes me that we don't book more flounder trips than we do. Like I always said it's the timing. Who expects to do a bang up job on flounder in June? My regulars seem to be the only ones who benefit on this exceptional fishery.

Fluke were hot on the tails of the flounder. On June 27 I had 52 fluke for an afternoon. The fish were small, and another 30 were released. Gin Beach was the spot and it hosted an armada of boats. Everyone wanted the fluke. Small draggers, rowboats with dragnets, tin boats, cruisers, charters and some skin divers. Small fluke were bringing a buck a pound at the market. After a week or so Gin Beach had had it. Some fish did remain, but there were better spots to be found.

My primary target in July are weakfish. Still in-between weakfish-



The ever-present blues were almost too thick in the fall. They provided all the daytime casting action you wanted, but hindered bass fishing.

ing, porgy fishing, etc., I caught fluke. July was a good month for fluke. On many a day I managed mixed bag catches of weaks and fluke, porgies and fluke, blues and fluke. Biggest fluke all month was a 7 lb. mat.

The bottom fell out in August. Fluke became scarce. The same pattern occurred last year, this time worse. Because of a great interest in fluke amongst my customers I persevered and found fluke were available if you pushed hard enough.

The big fluke did respond the first of September as is expected. On the second, I had 16 up to 8 lbs. for an afternoon. Because of lingering warm water temperatures fluke surprisingly large numbers were being taken into October. I heard of some of the devoted private boat fluke fanatics catching 20 to 40 fluke a day, up to 4 pounds, during this late period.

My impression of the fluke season was a poor one. Not without rewards mind you, but overall a slow season. Some of the traditional areas such as the North Rips never came to life. In August the sundials and sea robins were very thick. While all the clubs, panels, boards and legislatures are trying to save the striped bass the fluke are being decimated. A disregard for the 14 inch legal size law and inshore netting are to blame. If a more stringent legislation in the area of fluke is not soon developed the fluke scene will only continue to worsen.

Weakfish were the heartbreak of the season; 1984 was the worst seen in this downhill cycle. Perhaps the overall East End picture was not as bad as it appeared at Montauk. Block Island still produced well. Not like last year but better than Montauk. Also, the Gardiner and Plum Islands played host to a good run of weakfish which was kept rather quiet by the Connecticut charter boat fleet.

My first charter boat catch of weaks was July 5. We landed 25 fish on the

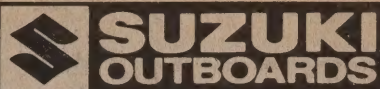
morning tide. The fish were of an 8 lb. average. Only one tide seemed able to produce well. The fishing was tricky and the bait tails worked best. At least that first week showed some consistency which was marked by a score of 31 weaks on the afternoon of July 10th. The rest of the month the weakfishing seemed unworthy of constant chase, so I chose my best tide for a shot at the weaks, then a prudent switch to the fluke. As on July 15 with a total of 3 weaks and 40 fluke to 6 pounds. At the end of July a little better showing of weaks saw stronger catches, scores of 10 to 15 weaks mixed in with and/or either porgies, blues, fluke. This lasted through the first week of August.

As hoped some weaks began to show up again in September. It first began at night. On four nights of casting I totalled 55 weakfish. Some of these fall beauties went 12 pounds. Included in those 4 nights were about 30 bass of which only 10 were keepers and many pesty blues. Not until September 16 did I begin to find some during the day. We had 14 that day, all caught casting.

Weakfish kept showing up while chasing the fall bass. As many as 6 and 9 were counted some days as late as October 25. It seems the weakfish slaughters of yesteryear are going into memory. Even though the numbers are gone, the quality of what's left is worth the effort. Next year I expect to have a new and faster boat. This will permit me a greater range in which to search for these speckled beauties. I surely do like my weakfishing.

Porgies came bouncing through the second half of June. Not the least bit unusual for these guys. They were all big and plentiful. I see fish as big as 4 lbs. for June 24th. On July 1, four anglers racked up four bushels of these 2½ lb. average porgies and then topped it off with 47 fluke. The scup action remained good all through

(Continued on next page.)



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July and like the fluke became a tricky affair in August. I often fish porgies in mid-summer with friends when I don't have a booking. On such trips I averaged about 180 lbs. for a single tide.

Some of the regular porgy pinhookers though the season was off on the fighting silvery scup. I thought it was a season of big fish with consistent action. Then, too, I don't chase the porgies everyday. High prices at the market make the porgy a pinhookers delight. And this brings about a quiz. If fluke are so popular, and porgies are bony little devils that are only suitable for certain ethnic groups, how come the porgies are worth more money at the market than the highly prized fluke? How come?

Some sea bass were to be had as in seasons past. These fish move into their respective haunts every year and are caught up quickly. Almost any day's porgy fishing will produce enough sea bass for several meals. On August 17 I deliberately searched out the sea bass and managed 150 lbs. for a party besides porgies and bonitos. For a charter boat, fishing sea bass is a tricky business.

This fall, early fall, I surrendered to the lure of the school tuna. On September 14, I put seven tuna up to 38 lbs. in the boat and busted off at least 14. On the 21st, one out of two anglers did all the fishing and put away seven more tuna on his own. The following day, my last tuna trip, four anglers nailed 16 of these blue bullets. No doubt about it, with better fishermen you catch more and lose less. On this day, we only busted off about 5 fish and the least experienced angler dropped 4 out of the 5.

Schools of bass were available all year long around Montauk. The regular bass hawks found some scores on live bunker and mackerel baits. Many of these days were spent mostly chasing the bait. Enough bait for a few hours fishing on the hotspot. Definitely not a charter boat fishery where one must fish by the clock. What took place most of the time for the bass hawks is mostly a mystery. These bass fishermen who are mostly dockside regulars seem to vanish once the first bass is taken and the season is under way.

From where I sat I kept running into occasional bass all season. This season in particular there seemed to be an awful lot of shorts around. Small schools of undersized bass were being taken all year long. I even ran into bass along Montauk's South Shore during the middle of the day, mid-season. Reminiscent of old times.

In spite of warm water the fall bass began the usual time. I began to see them mixed in with weakfish in late September. Catch 6 and throw back 4. In early October, I record some bigger fish appearing. As big as 40 pounds on October 11. Then the worst thing happened. The blues became a problem. So thick were their numbers that trying to fish through them was a horror show. Not many fishermen are

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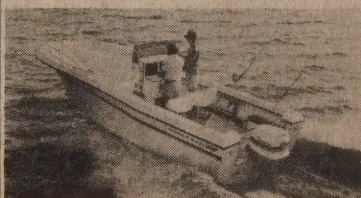
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willing to catch 60 or 70 large bluefish to get to five or six bass. On occasion if you were lucky, you may find a few bass snapping at the lures without the presence of bluefish. This was not a common occurrence. Some areas showed very few blues and would produce a few bass when worked over. Unfortunately, that put a traffic problem on these all too few spots not permitting effective fishing.

Diamond jigging had its problems because of the blues. Pulling 15 pound blues one after another can be discouraging, still I managed some catches through the wolf pack. October 28 and 29 saw a 40 pound bass each day taken on a diamond jig. In fact, these were two days where the success of the jig prompted a few of the steady trolling boats to switch over to the jig. But this was not the norm. Mostly the trolled umbrella applied with patience, tenacity and skill saw its way through endless blues and caught the bass.

(Take note that a bluefish on my boat is a wasted fish. No one wants them. Out of several tons that were hooked during the fall season only about 500 pounds returned to the dock.)

What a shame that casting demands skill and experience for catching bass. Some good casting was available all season. Mostly at night, of course, and daybreak and evenings. The biggest bass caught during the day on light line was a 33 pounder. Otherwise the real prize came at night. On the night of November 8, Dr. Jeff Sherer and I, on a special nighttime casting trip, caught a mere total in numbers, but of impressive size. We fished one tide and caught 4 bass. The biggest were 50 and 36 pounds. Nice fish on 15 pound test casting tackle. In the two weeks prior to the moon, surf casters were doing very well on big bass. Once the moon phase came they fell off to spotty fishing.

Unlike the previous years when the bass ended about November 14, this year saw action into December. My last recorded catch for a bass charter was on November 25. Total was eight bass and a box of big blues. Oh yes, the blues lasted longer than the bass. Or at least as late.

There were days when out of a total of 24 caught only 6 or 7 would make the legal size limit. Keeping this in mind it wasn't so bad a season. In fact, it was encouraging. For me it was a frustrating fall run. The luck I enjoyed during spring codfishing deserted me during the fall. My timing was out of step. Every time the bass bit good I wasn't there.

Fishing will never be what it used to be, never! Still a strong fishery remains and will remain for the sportsman. So confident am I on the continuance of productive fishing that I have ordered a new boat. More speed for allowing more fishing time. Like the money investment counseling corporation I, too, am bullish on America!



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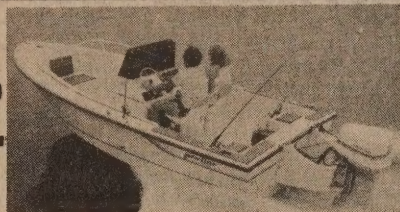
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TUNA AND BLUE MARLIN SALVAGE OFFSHORE SEASON

by Al Ristori

Offshore anglers had the usual mixed bag of fishing in 1984, but the overall picture was a good one. Cold spring weather delayed everything, and the shark fishing never did recover. On the other hand, the inshore waters warmed up very suddenly and there was lots of action relatively close to shore. Giant tuna provided some great flurries of action, school tuna fishing was excellent at times—and there was never a year like 1984 for huge blue marlin!

Shark anglers will long remember that cold, wet spring of 1984. After a relatively mild winter, the spring reversal kept water temperatures low and combined with an unusually heavy flow of freshwater from the estuaries to apparently alter the shark migration patterns. At least that's the way shark expert Jack Casey looks at it. Casey points out that the record rainfalls produced decreased salinities in surface waters on the continental shelf out to 70 or 80 miles in the mid-Atlantic Bight—as compared to a normal 30 miles or less.

As a result of the decreased salinity and cold water, the normally dependable blue sharks seem to have migrated along the offshore edges of the continental shelf rather than inshore. Casey notes that long-liners reported plenty of blue sharks, and concludes that the problems experienced last year appear to involve a temporary shift in distribution rather than a decline in overall abundance.

Whatever the reason, Long Island sharkers were certainly shocked to find that the usual "sure thing" wasn't readily available to them. At the famous Bay Shore Mako Tournament in late June there is a long history of shark catches, and in the case of blue sharks these have ranged from 59 to 1,187 during the period from 1965 to 1983. Yet, in 1984 there was only one blue shark recorded in that two-day affair!

Even at Montauk, the usual infestation of small blue sharks never occurred. In other years, catches of 20 to 50 per boat were common—though most of those fish were only in the 35 to 100 pound class. In 1984 most skippers were satisfied with a couple, and catches of 8 or 10 were bragged about. However, the sizes of the blue sharks captured were far greater than

normal. On my one June shark trip we were surprised by two blues in the 200 pound class—and many of the boats in the Montauk fleet caught blues of 100 to 200 pounds that month. The point about the blue sharks being beyond our normal reach was proven when Captain Phil Lewis took his Adios to the Dumping Grounds and loaded up with 150 to 300 pounders.

Despite the cold waters, some makos did move inshore by mid-June. Augie's Tackle in Babylon reported the first two trophy makos on the weekend of June 9. Bill Kern took a 310 pounder on the Happy Hooker and John Gusman had a 370 pounder on the Small Fry. However, both fish were taken 50 miles south of Fire Island Inlet.

Though the overall situation remained poor, there was some increase in activity the following weekend. Captain Zac Grossman kicked off his Montauk charter season on the "Mako Express" with a 418 pound mako, while the "Montauk" and "Mistress II" recorded threshers of 278 and 328 pounds. However, the Moriches tournament produced only 6 makos, 1 blue, 1 small white and a few browns for 88 boats—and Captain Bob Rocchetta had to run his "Rainbow" far to the southeast in order to find clear water and the winning mako. As an example of just how bad things were, the Hudson Anglers Tournament drew 165 boats that could produce only a 140 pound white for the \$9,000 first prize; while the runner-up money went to a 110 pound brown and a 100 pound blue.

It wasn't until the last weekend in June that shark fishing finally opened up. Despite fog and rain, Saturday, June 30 was a red letter day all the way from Barnegat to Montauk. Several huge makos were boated that day, including a New Jersey state record. Unfortunately, that didn't signal a complete turnaround in the sharking.

The two big Montauk tournaments during the first weekend in July were blown out the first day and didn't produce any great volume on the next. However, the Montauk Captains Association contest at Captain's Cove did provide onlookers with a glimpse of two super catches. The winner was a 446¾ pound thresher boated by

Lynette Pintauro of NYC on Captain Frank Braddick's "Hurry Up." That fish topped the women's 50 pound test world record for threshers. By far the biggest fish was a 768 pound tiger shark taken by Penn Reel rep Chris Note on Capt. Charlie Tota's "Nina." Unfortunately, that fish was too large to boat and the towing process resulted in their arriving after the deadline. Despite those catches, most boats didn't do very well. Indeed, the Star Island contest went to a 97 pound mako which was far ahead of any competition.

At that point, the trend for the season was set. We would see some very large sharks boated, but the quantity was way down. During the week, there were makos of 459 pounds on the "Mistress II" and 450 pounds on the "Frances Ann II"—but few other sharks reported. I was disappointed when the maiden shark trip on my Mako 25 "Sheri Berri" produced only a 203 pound mako on 30 pound test for Al Engle of Edison, NJ, but brightened up considerably when I found that many fine shark skippers were shut out on that beautiful day.

Just as that bad spring weather fouled up the shark fishing, it also put a crimp in the canyon action. Some dedicated canyon anglers found a few bigeyes in June, but it wasn't until the last day of that month that the fishing really opened up with a mixture of yellowfins, albacore and big eyes. Not the biggest canyon fish, but probably the most impressive was the 192 pound bigeye taken aboard Dick Svoboda's "Miss Marion" in Hudson Canyon by Joyce LoCasso on 50 pound tackle. That catch won Svoboda a Concord Mariner watch (plus cash) and LoCasso, The Fisherman Magazine's Outstanding Angler Trophy in the first Harbor Festival Fishing Rodeo.

Canyon fishing was off and on all year, but there were some fine individual catches. Richie Koch stunned everyone by boating a 900 pound blue marlin on his Libra during the Babylon Tuna Club Invitational Marlin and Tuna Club contest. Yet Richie ended up with only the third largest blue of the year!

Captain Greg Dubrule of the Connecticut charter boat "Sea Weed II" put Mickey Kreitovich of Vernon, CT

on a 940 pound blue marlin while trolling in 42 fathoms south of Montauk Point. Just a few days later in August, Captain Dave Kohlus almost matched his New York State record 940 pound blue marlin catch with a 921 pounder taken by T.J. Fulton of Pleasantville, NY on an overnight canyon trip out of Montauk. Add to that the 865 pounder by Dianne Formichella aboard her husband Mike's Jersey-based Second Time Around in August and the 840 pounder by Tony Siniscalchi on Fred Hill's Four Queens out of Atlantic Beach in September. The latter two fish came out of Hudson Canyon. Try to match that Hatteras!

An exceptional number of smaller blue marlin were also caught, but the strangest catches of that species came into Montauk. It was only mid-July when Paul Pisciotto hooked a 519 pound blue marlin on the "Salmar" while trolling a daisy chain of mackerel at the tuna grounds off Block Island in 140 feet of water! That catch was exceptional because it was only about 10 miles from shore, in very shallow water for a blue—and very early in the season for any semi-tropical species to be so far inshore. However, another blue only slightly smaller was also trolled on a daisy chain in the same area—and other boats reported having blues up behind their chains.

Marlin, makos and everything else are just pests to dedicated giant tuna fishermen. Captain Greg Beacher committed himself to kicking off the season at Montauk and he spent 10 fishless days before scoring with the "Dawn" on July 3. Captain Paul Stern also trolled a giant that day on his Tuna Tangler, and those two led the fleet through the up and down daisy chain trolling experienced right through July. All of this fishing was S/SE of Block Island.

By the end of July the giants started to respond to chum slicks, and the period from the last week in July to the first week in August was the best of the season. Not only were many giants available, but there was also an exceptional run of 100 to 200 pounders. It was actually unusual to get shut out—and that's not normally the case in giant tuna fishing.

Unfortunately, the giants suddenly moved off to No Man's Land. The fishing there was red hot for about a week and a half before the bluefish took over. Some Montauk boats made the long run, and most had good action. However, the purse seiners were also there—and we never had solid giant tuna fishing out east after they got through with their operations.

In 1983 there was fine giant tuna fishing in August off Block Island and a solid mid-September run south of Montauk Point. Last year there were just a few one or two day flurries with no consistency from day to day. Fortunately, there was no lack of action much of the time due to the abundance of medium and school

tuna. The initial run on the west bank of Butterfish Hole (about 14 miles south of the Point) consisted primarily of bluefin from 90 to 200 pounds, plus yellowfins in the 75 to 100 pound class. From mid-September well into October there was a strong showing of schoolies averaging 30 to 35 pounds.

The schoolies were so thick that it was usually no problem to catch limits for all, if they wanted them. On one sloppy Sunday I had a charter party consisting of two veteran party boat anglers—Matt Billerman of Riverhead and Dave Tunnell of Philadelphia. Even though we left them biting, those two hauled in 25 tuna and almost cleaned me out of tags!

The 50 ton quota set aside for the area west of Moriches wasn't used up

"Giant tuna provided some great flurries of action, school tuna fishing was excellent at times, and there was never a year like 1984 for huge blue marlin!"

during the fall season. However, the mid-September fishery was as good as any that have been experienced in the Mud Hole since the fishing started to revive in 1979. For over a week the giants were so thick that even novices were hooking up one after another—though the vast majority were probably lost due to inadequate tackle or fighting chair arrangements. On the other hand, the pros did very well before a storm moved the giants out or just put them off their feed. There was one more brief flurry before another October storm effectively ended that season.

Though all of the NMFS statistics aren't available as yet, a notable aspect of the 1984 giant tuna season was the predominance of more recent year classes. It wasn't many years ago when 800 pound tuna were routine, if you caught them at all. Now the average fish are in the 400 to 600 pound class—and the abundance of mediums off Block Island and No Man's Land last summer bodes well for the future. At least that should be the case if NMFS will ever do anything about the purse seiners!

There was a lot more to the offshore scene last year than what's been covered here in some detail. The

exceptionally warm summer waters brought albacore and yellowfin well inshore. The latter mixed freely with the bluefins in the 140 foot depths from Butterfish Hole to Block Island, something which most skippers felt was very unusual. Albacore were just a bit further offshore, and Ronnie Fuering of Sea Isle Tackle in Freeport caught a near-record specimen while trolling for giants off No Man's. The New Jersey bigeye record was beaten by a 364 pounder taken on the "Ol Salty II," and the Garden State mako mark was also topped once again in Hudson Canyon during the summer.

The white marlin fishing was fairly productive at times. There certainly was no lack of them off Block Island in July and early August. The giant tuna fleet was spotting them constantly for awhile, though they were largely ignored in the quest for the big ones. The mackerel daisy chains were too large for the whites to show much interest in, but once the chumming started quite a few were hooked on heavy tackle. Several whites over the 100 pound mark were taken off the East End before the season was over.

Those warm waters resulted in more dolphin catches than normal, both in the canyons and further inshore. The New Jersey sailfish record was broken three times, though those fish were all boated in the southern portion of the state. There were some wahoo caught and, as usual, the canyon fishing heated up in the fall after almost everyone had given up on it. During the last week in September, the Bronco Explorer from Montauk returned from an extended trip with 200 bigeyes to 300 pounds, 52 dolphin up to 30 pounds, a 35 pound wahoo, and some yellowfin and albacore—and they lost a blue marlin!

The swordfish picture didn't improve, though a few persistent anglers scored on overnight trips to the canyons. It was better to just get real lucky, as Bob Nankervis did when he boated a 418 pound swordfish on the "Bit of Heaven" out of Montauk while trolling the canyon with a Green Machine.

The season wound up with school tuna fishing far offshore in the area of the Bacardi. That fishing wasn't as consistent as it had been in 1983, but some anglers scored very well. Dogfish were a big problem there, just as they were in early October at the Butterfish Hole school tuna grounds. Between the dogfish and the bluefish, it took a quick tuna to get to a bait—and there was no way to get a diamond jig through the choppers.

As always, it was a year of both pluses and minuses—and the one thing I can guarantee is that 1985 will provide just such a mixture. If it's your favorite fishing that's on the upside, then it will be a good year. The best bet is to swing with the tide and accept what Mother Nature will give you. In the case of most oceanic wanderers, there just isn't anything we can do to change migratory patterns.

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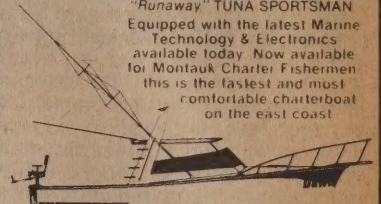
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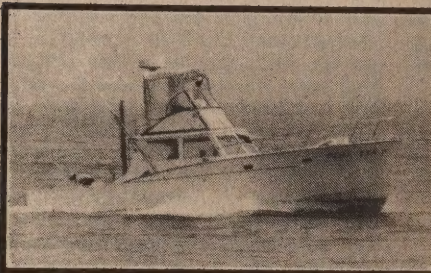
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East End REPORT

with Stu Miller

Captain Zac Grossman of the Montauk charter boat **Mako Express** called to remind readers that he will be occupying booth No. 220 at the Sportsmen's Expo in Nassau Coliseum this week. Anglers can stop by and view Zac's video recordings of Cartwright bluefishing, chunking and jigging bluefin tuna, shark fishing and offshore trolling. The affable skipper will also be raffling off a full day of offshore fishing aboard the **Mako Express** after the close of the show.

South Shore REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

The recent blast of Polar air has most of us thinking about the season ahead. Prior to the deep freeze,



John Ciano and Tom Titone with a 6.2 lb. fluke taken last summer at Montauk's North Rips aboard the "Viking Starship."

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though, there was still some light fishing activity scattered around. Also, boat and sport shows are helping to fill in for winter boredom and a reminder that the New York Sportsman's Expo will be berthed at Nassau Coliseum from Wednesday, January 23rd through Sunday.

A call to Paul Graniello's J&J Tackle in Patchogue put us in touch with Joe Modica who is manning the counter. Word from Joe reveals that Paul has been busy renovating the store and getting ready for the upcoming season. He also passed along the results of the shop's 1984 fishing derby. Some very impressive catches marked the list of winners. In the boat



Bill Loeber and Steve Hines with some bulldog blacks to 12½ lbs. taken last fall at Fishers Island aboard the Montauk charter boat, "Nostalgia II."

bass category, John Frame led the way with a 42.5 pounder. John Wildman nailed down the boat bluefish category with a 15.9 lber, while George Dietz nailed a 15 lb. weakfish from a boat to take that division. Marie Raycroft boated a 14.2 lb. blackfish which not only earned her first place in the contest but also put her into the IGFA record books in the 30 lb. class women's division. Surf caught winners were no less impressive with Mike Langdon taking a 50 lb. striper, Tom Kellenbach a 20.4 lb. blue and Ozzie Von Helmond beaching an 11.2 lb. weakfish. Joe Napoli led the way in the freshwater division earning first place in the largemouth



Fifteen-year-old Richie Muller, Jr., of Commack, hefts a huge 17¾ lb. blue that he decked back in October aboard the Freeport open boat, "Capt. Al."

bass category with a 9.2 lb.unker. He also took the pickerel award with a 4.3 pounder. Ken Flynn nailed down the trout prize with a 3.8 lb. rainbow.

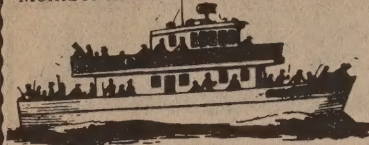
Over at J&R Sports Center in Oakdale Al Colban reported that some nice perch and trout were being taken from the Connetquot River with trout also being taken in Bubbles Falls and Rattlesnake Creek. This fishing normally lasts through the winter providing you can handle the weather and as long as there's open water, which could be a real problem at present. Al also noted that prior to this week's vicious cold snap, set-liners had been doing well with cod in 65 to 80 feet of water between Jones and Fire Island Inlets. A reminder too that J&R Tackle will have a display at the Sportsmen's Expo in Nassau Coliseum this week and weekend. Be sure to drop by and say hello and take a look at some of the craftsmanship that goes into their fine line of custom rods.

Captree's open boat fleet has been immobilized by heavy ice as of Sunday and through the early part of the week. Skippers were taking a wait and see attitude concerning the deep freeze and hoping for a return to more normal conditions. All suggested phoning ahead for a check on the status of sailing schedules which will be governed by current weather and ice conditions.

Captain Charlie Kennedy of the Captree open boat Capt. Joseph II noted that just prior to the deep freeze there were some cod to be caught. His most recent trip, on Saturday, produced approximately 50 cod for 11 fares. Seven or eight of the fish were

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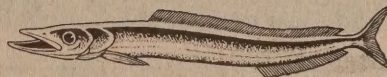
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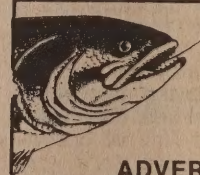
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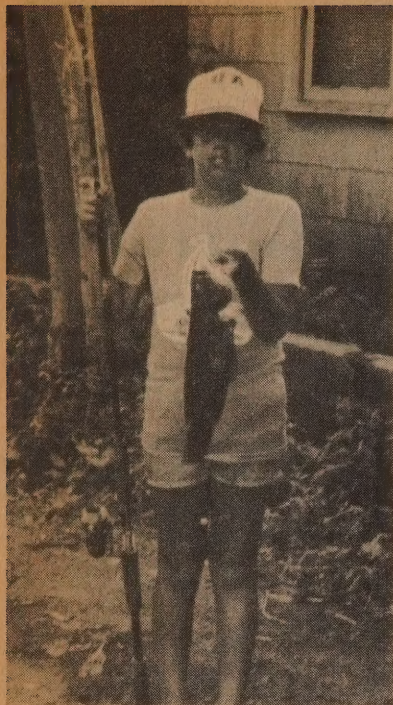
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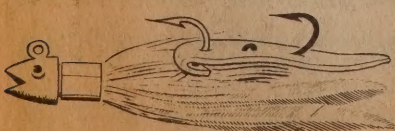


Chris Cavaoli used a sand worm to catch this 6½ lb. blackfish from the Sound Beach shore last season. Subscriber photo.

in the 20 to 25 lb. class. Fishing was done in 100 feet of water over a wreck. Charlie noted that heavy ice began building on Sunday and had everything socked in tight by Monday. He is still planning on sailing for cod, but suggested phoning before coming down to confirm sailing.

Captain Carl Passero of the open boat **Miss Captree** called to report that one of his fares earned second place and \$522 in the recently concluded Captree Cod Derby. Jim Callascione of Deer Park was the lucky angler who nailed a 39.12 lb. cod late last month. Carl reminded that he will begin chasing flounder on March 2nd with an 8AM daily-full day trip schedule. Carl also put in a word for the codfishing prior to all the bitter cold. He has been working the deck aboard the **Capt. Scotty** and noted that cod action had been fair when they were able to sail. Cold and ice has kept the boat at the dock since Sunday.

A call to **Augie's Tackle Shop** in Babylon revealed that they have again expanded their already extensive and impressive offshore department. As for the fishing scene, Tom Healey reported some white perch around before ice closed off the local creeks. Private boat codfishing is now a dead issue.



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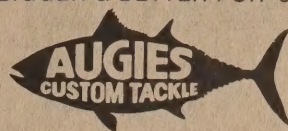
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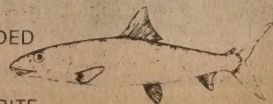
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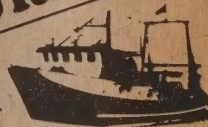
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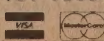
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West End REPORT

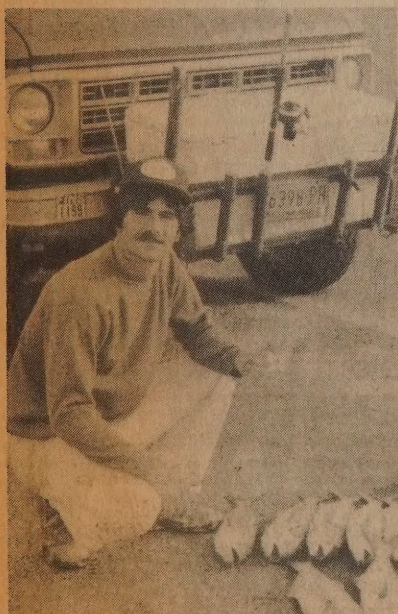
with Stu Miller

With just a few fishable days this week, the cod boats had fair catches on wrecks. Sunday was completely wiped out by the snow storm and super cold air from Canada.

WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

A call from Capt. Richie Kessinger of the **Starstream II** told of Monday's catch of 45 cod for 20 fares with fish up to 33 lbs. Fish averaged 8 to 15 lbs. and were all caught on wrecks. On Saturday's trip, 20 brave souls boated 30 cod to 25 lbs.

The word from Capt. Al Lindroth of the **Capt. Al** told of a decent catch of cod Friday for 11 fares, with the best day being Saturday when Stanley of Bellmore was high hook with 9 cod. With 20 anglers aboard, they averaged 2 to 5 fish a man with 14 hangers up on the side of the boat Saturday. Fish averaged 8 to 15 lbs. and went up to 35 lbs. The skipper said there are still a lot of cod around and all that is needed is some decent weather to fish in and some more excellent scores can be expected.



Steve Murray beached these blues back in September. Scene of the action was Cupsogue Beach. Subscriber photo.

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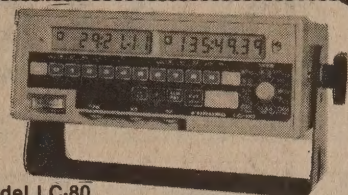
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1984 STARCRAFT 21' Mariner, 90 hp Evinrude, galv. trailer. Loaded. Dealer Demo. Save. DAVE BOFILL MARINE, 516-283-6736.

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NEW 1984 EVINRUDES 1984

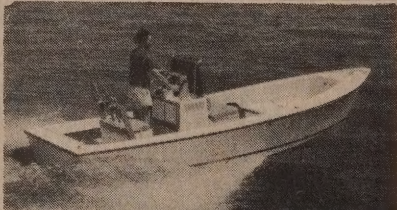
2-312; 4-5496; 6-5680; 8-5780; 9-9-5998; 15-\$1100; 35-\$1500; 50-\$2295; 70-\$2690; 90-\$2830; 115-\$3400; 140-\$4100; 150-\$4250; 185-\$4600; 235-\$5200. ELECTRA MARINE, INC., 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY 11563. Scott & McCulloch parts. FOB/H. WI. 516-599-3003. We ship anywhere.

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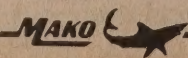
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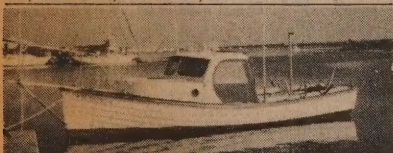
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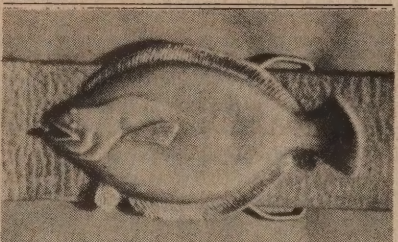
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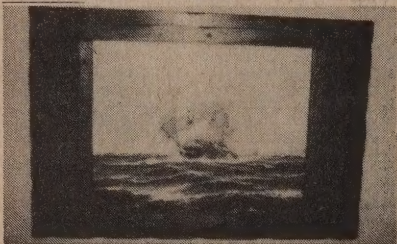
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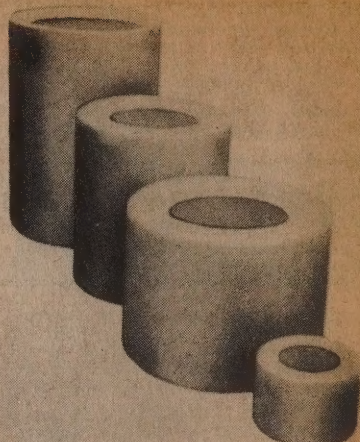
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DISTRESS SALE—3 Prime Lots in Silver Spring Shore, FL. \$20,000 for all 3. 516-433-4427.

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet... —0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK		BREAKWATER HARBOR		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEWPORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THURS.	9:55	9:20	10:45	11:10	10:45	11:15	11:30	—	1:35	1:40	1:05	1:25	9:50	10:15	1/24
FRI.	10:35	11:00	11:25	11:50	11:25	11:55	12:00	12:10	2:05	2:10	1:45	2:05	10:35	10:55	1/25
SAT.	11:15	11:40	—	12:05	—	12:00	12:50	12:55	2:35	2:45	2:30	2:50	11:15	11:45	1/26
SUN.	11:55	—	12:30	12:45	12:35	12:40	1:35	1:45	3:10	3:25	3:10	3:30	—	12:00	1/27
MON.	12:25	12:40	1:20	1:35	1:15	1:15	2:25	2:40	3:45	4:10	4:00	4:25	12:30	12:50	1/28
TUES.	1:10	1:30	2:10	2:25	1:55	2:00	3:15	3:40	4:35	5:05	4:50	5:15	1:25	1:45	1/29
WED.	2:00	2:25	3:05	3:20	2:45	3:00	4:05	4:35	5:25	6:10	5:40	6:15	2:20	2:45	1/30
THURS.	3:00	3:35	4:00	4:20	3:45	4:10	4:55	5:30	6:20	6:25	6:35	7:10	3:15	3:40	1/31

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	—
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00

Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	—0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	—0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point, north side	—1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	—
Smith Cove entrance	—0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	—
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10

Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Dauids Island	—0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuytten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	—1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	—
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 1/24	7:21	5:05
FRI. 1/25	7:20	5:06
SAT. 1/26	7:19	5:07
SUN. 1/27	7:18	5:08
MON. 1/28	7:17	5:09
TUE. 1/29	7:16	5:10
WED. 1/30	7:15	5:11

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 1/24	9:29AM	8:44PM
FRI. 1/25	9:51AM	9:44PM
SAT. 1/26	10:11AM	10:43PM
SUN. 1/27	10:32AM	11:43PM
MON. 1/28	10:54AM	—
TUE. 1/29	11:18AM	12:43AM
WED. 1/30	11:46AM	1:45AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
			
1/21	1/29	1/7	1/13

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

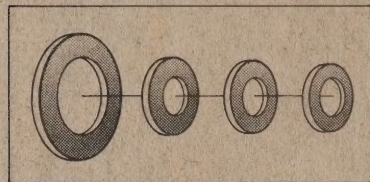
	AM	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	7:30	1:20	7:55	1:40
Fri.	8:10	2:00	8:40	2:20
Sat.	9:00	2:50	9:25	3:10
Sun.	9:40	3:30	10:05	3:40
Mon.	10:25	4:15	10:50	4:10
Tues.	11:10	5:00	11:35	5:20
Wed.	11:50	5:40	12:15	6:00
Thurs.	12:20	6:20	12:45	6:40

Quantum® Lab Report

© 1985 Brunswick Corp.

The performance choice in spinning reel drags has historically been limited to two: Front drags that are difficult to adjust. Rear drags that are unpredictable.

Now there's Quantum Magnum Drag. With 600% more working drag surface, it's the first spinning reel drag that can really talk performance. The kind of performance that makes a big fish respect light line. The kind of performance that won't fade or freeze under pressure. Performance beyond what everyone has always accepted as the limit. Until now.



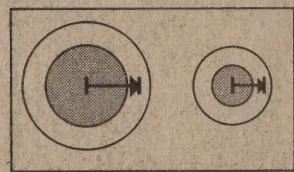
Actual size comparison of Magnum Drag discs vs. conventional rear drag discs.

The more you have to work with the more you have a right to expect.

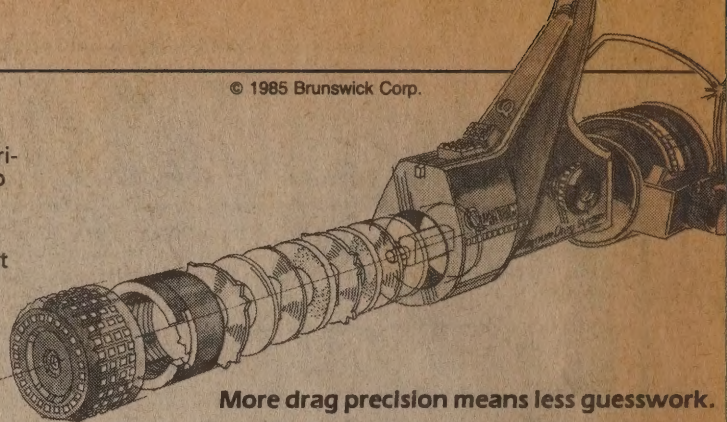
The size difference between Quantum and conventional drag discs tells you what you can expect from Magnum Drag. More. More surface area means more range, control, precision, sensitivity.

More drag surface means more leverage.

Pressure and heat can cripple a drag. Especially since heat build-up can approach 285°. By using the increased surface area to give Magnum Drag a larger center hole and double the radius of conventional rear drags, heat and pressure are spread out over a larger area. Away from the center shaft. So Magnum Drag actually gives your line leverage against a fighting fish.

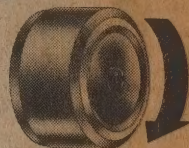


Quantum's disc radius is nearly double that of conventional rear drag discs.



More drag precision means less guesswork.

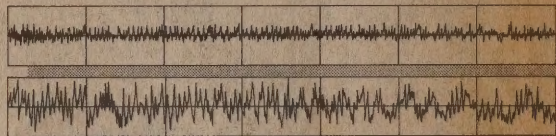
To make the most of added range and sensitivity, Quantum engineering added precision. Every click on the Magnum Drag equals precisely one-quarter pound of pressure. No more. No less. You'll never "accidentally" dial yourself out of the fight by guesswork.



990° degrees of rotation, calibrated in 1/4-pound increments, deliver precise control of Quantum's drag range.

The heart of performance.

If the drag is the heart of the reel, Quantum engineering produced a reel that's all heart. Notice how the bottom chart is a highly erratic line. Every peak and valley on that line is a bump or a slip in drag tension. A missed fish. Magnum Drag reaches one peak, applies a consistent even pressure, and displays virtually a straight line. The heartbeat of Quantum. Because the shortest, surest distance from the strike to the live well is a straight line.



Actual demonstration of Quantum Magnum Drag (above) vs. conventional rear drag (below). These graphs plot drag smoothness and consistency much the same way an EKG plots heartbeats.

For the name of the Quantum dealer nearest you call toll-free 1-800-USA-REEL.

Magnum Drag.™ Drag Engineering that pushes performance past the known limitations.

QUANTUM®

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